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'Pragmatic' Views on Resources Behind CIS Union

PM3009122193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Sep 93 p 2

[Igor Lenskiy report: "Peau de Chagrin Starting To Grow. From Economic Union to Union of the Peoples"]

[Text] Journalists came along to what B. Yeltsin saw as the "historic" meeting of CIS leaders in Moscow accompanied by the barrels of special-purpose troop assault rifles. Men in protective suits and helmets were scurrying all over the President Hotel as if they intended to go into space or it was expected that an enraged mob of deputies from the dissolved parliament was about to napalm the heads of state.

It was not for nothing that this hysteria was built up. The heads of state themselves canceled the planned press conference, fearing either terrorists or (more likely) thorny questions about the latest impromptu domestic political actions by the meeting's host.

They did have something to brag about this time. An economic union has been formed, and this is undoubtedly the most significant event in the CIS' entire brief and chaotic history. On the one hand, it is the will of the time and an acknowledgment of past mistakes, unfounded ambitions, and naive illusions. "The outside world does not need us" can be considered the collective view behind these words from V. Chernomyrdin.

On the other, one cannot help seeing a far more pragmatic consideration. Now, with the steps that have begun to be taken to defend the Russian economic space, our neighbors have quickly remembered where their resources come from. The new independent states, barely having broken away from mother Russia and felt the awkwardness of their position, have once again rushed to cling to its breast, where there are preferential credits, understated prices well below those on the world market, and energy sources delivered without set dates of payment. "Is there a state which gives others everything for free?" V. Chernomyrdin asked rhetorically. He himself provided the answer: "Yes, there is: Russia." That is the secret of the unanimous support for these inflammatory actions in Moscow, which—were they carried out in his own country—would cause any president to instantly jump out of his seat. There is no doubt that solidarity with the Kremlin "pyromaniac" will be generously rewarded by the Russian treasury.

V. Chernomyrdin gave the example of the radical simplification of customs control on the Russian-Kazakhstani border as an outstanding step forward. When the single credit, finance, banking, and payment systems for which the agreement provides are set up in the future and unified economic policy is implemented, notably in pricing, that decision could only be welcomed. But what are we seeing today? I would remind you that a liter of AI-92 gasoline costs 140 rubles [R] on the Russian side of the border and R290 on the Kazakhstani side. At the moment customs posts allow motorists through with a full tank plus a 20-liter can. Controls are now being relaxed, and gasoline from border areas will simply go into Kazakhstan's commercial structures, which may in itself be "democratic" but hardly has a bearing on Russian national interests.

The situation in Ukraine is far more dramatic. Leonid Makarovich [Kravchuk], as you know, has taken his country too far. Including "independent Ukraine" in the ruble zone would probably increase the ruble rate of inflation. The Russian premier confirmed that Ukraine's economy is being ruined faster than those of the other CIS countries, once again pointing sharply to its astronomical debts. Nevertheless L. Kravchuk so far only consents to associate membership—as does, moreover, Turkmenistan's president, S. Niyazov. The Turkmen leader is living in an ivory tower.

Toward the end V. Chernomyrdin made a sensational statement to the effect that countries that were not part of the USSR are showing interest in the CIS economic union. However, no clarification was forthcoming. Be that as it may, it is quite possible that the economic union will be a prototype for a union of the peoples. And although S. Shushkevich described this idea as a pipe dream, you have to believe that a new generation will soon come along wanting to leave behind something of more abiding importance.

Difficulties Examined

PM3009121393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 28 Sep 93 p 2

[Pavel Shinkarenko article: "The Treaty Has Been Signed. But This Is Only the Start of Great Work. This Is the Summit Participants' Assessment of the Creation of the Economic Union"]

[Text] "My heart tells me that today—24 September—will be a turning point in the history of the CIS," Boris Yeltsin said on opening last Friday's session of the Council of Heads of State and the Council of Heads of Government. This presentiment was justified: A few hours later nine countries—former union republics—signed the Treaty on the Creation of the Economic Union, which attests to the partners' desire to deepen economic relations on a multilateral basis. Another important event on the same day was Azerbaijan's admission to the CIS.

The Economic Union, the treaty on which was discussed by the prime ministers and then signed by the heads of state in Moscow's President Hotel, sets itself the aim of shaping conditions for the participant countries' stable development in the interests of raising their population's living standards; creating stage by stage a common economic area based on market relations; creating equal opportunities and guarantees for all economic players [khozyaystvuyushchiye subyekty]; jointly implementing economic projects; resolving ecological problems through joint efforts, as well as eliminating the aftermath

of natural disasters and catastrophes. Such a collection of aims clearly attests that during the two years of its existence the Commonwealth, which was originally regarded by some people as a "divorce agency" for the former republics of the USSR, has become an important factor in restoring the destroyed economic ties, strengthening the integration of national economies on a multilateral basis, and, consequently, normalizing the situation as a whole.

Presumably it will be no easy matter to realize the aims announced in the Treaty of Economic Union. This is not only because the new association is not to some people's liking; attacks can be expected from the opposition, above all, because states which have proclaimed themselves independent will have to partly waive their sovereignty on assuming commitments in the union. But this is understandable: On entering into a treaty even with a neighbor, we lose part of our independence.

But there are also difficulties of an organizational nature. According to Viktor Chernomyrdin, who chaired the Council of Heads of Government, the signing of the Treaty of Economic Union is just the start of great and complex work, in the course of which a specific mechanism capable of making the union a vigorous organism has to be created. "If approximately 30 concrete agreements are signed even this year," the Russian prime minister believes, "then already in 1994 it will be possible to halt the production slump both in Russia and in the other Commonwealth countries." There are grounds for such optimism. For the economy of any country today suffers most of all from disruption of the interregional division of labor. But it is proposed to restore the former direct ties not by means of distribution from a single center but through an interstate (multilateral) free trade association, a customs union, a common market for goods, services, capital, and manpower, and a currency (monetary) union.

For this it will undoubtedly be necessary to reduce the countries' economic legislation, above all, to a "common denominator"—which could also meet with an ambivalent reception in sovereign parliaments.

On the other hand, the shaping of the new international community—the Economic Union—will be promoted by the agreement signed at the beginning of September on practical measures to create a new type of ruble zone, in which six countries agreed to create conditions to preserve traditional economic and other ties between enterprises and the population. It was originally proposed to take this step after concluding the Treaty of Economic Union. After reaching agreement on a single ruble zone, however, the heads of government decided to do this sooner and, as we see, were not wrong: The agreement on the ruble zone acted as a kind of catalyst for the further integration process.

It is impossible not to draw attention to another aspect of the Moscow summit. By inviting the heads of state and government of the CIS countries to Moscow, the president and the government of the Russian Federation confirmed the fact that Russia is ready, as before, to fulfill its traditional role of the Commonwealth's "locomotive." An answering response is also important. "The CIS heads of state and government supported the constitutional reforms being implemented by the Russian president and wished him success," Stanislav Shushkevich, speaker of the Belarusian parliament, who chaired the top-level meeting, declared at the end of it.

Will the Economic Union be effective?

"I am convinced of this," Sergey Tereshchenko, prime minister of Kazakhstan, replied categorically, "because it will be based on joint-stock enterprises and multinational corporations. We already have such an example with Russia—Kustanay's 'Dizel' Joint-Stock Enterprise, which works jointly with the Bryansk Machine Plant. At a recent meeting with Viktor Chernomyrdin we also reached agreement on setting up similar firms in the sphere of oil extraction and refining and in the mining and metallurgical industry. Specific agreements will be concluded by interested economic players. It is the governments' task to create appropriate conditions for them and, most importantly, not to hinder their work."

Moscow Defines Central Asia as 'Zone of Influence'

MK300912349 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No 59, 30 Sep 93 (signed to press 29 Sep) p 3

[Andrey Borodin report: "Moscow Gains by Preserving the Geopolitical Space of the Former USSR"]

[Text] The latest events in Moscow have diverted observers' attention from the processes unfolding on the territory of the former Soviet Union, where a group of sovereign countries has now emerged, each of which is somehow or other related to the CIS—an association which some people are describing as a "strange conglomerate of states" [strannoye nagromozhdeniye gosudarstv—same initial letters as CIS in Russian] led by Russia.

The layman's point of view on the CIS, especially where the Central Asian countries are concerned, is of a dubious nature. On the one hand, the consciousness of the average citizen is warmed by the thought that "they will not be able to do without us after all." On the other, quite often angry exclamations are heard: "Our people are hungry themselves, and then these have to be fed, too." Significantly, the latter statements have been heard most often in the now dissolved Supreme Soviet since the course toward consolidation of the CIS harmoniously fits into the presidential team's foreign policy concept, and the signs are that this was the reason for the parliamentarians' particular dislike of it.

Russian diplomacy in Central Asia has often been reproached for its ambivalence. However, as the latest events on the Tajik-Afghan border have shown, Russia

has clearly defined its goals in this region, stating at the same time that it "advocates an equal partnership." Translated from the language of diplomacy to the language of historical studies, this means that along the southern direction Moscow has determined its "zone of influence" where it intends to protect its interests using not only political and economic but also military and other means of influence.

In a conversation with SEGODNYA's correspondent, a highly placed official at the Russian Federation Foreign Affairs Ministry dealing with Central Asian matters, though he did not agree with the expression "zone of influence," nonetheless admitted that the agreement on an economic union signed recently (to a certain extent it does not include Turkmenistan) is a logical continuation of the Russian Federation's policy in this region.

He called into question reports that Russia is spending considerably more on all forms of aid to the former Soviet republics (at one time a figure of $17 billion was cited) than it is getting from the West in the form of credits which sooner or later will have to be repaid. According to him, these figures are "not serious enough" while he himself, throughout his long diplomatic practice, has not once taken part in preparing any interstate documents that would have caused damage to Russia.

The diplomat is convinced that it is necessary to maintain close cooperation with the Central Asian countries since certain foreign Muslim states are already prepared to take the place of their "sponsor," which quite probably would entail the approximation of aggressive Islamic fundamentalism toward Russia's southern borders.

The negative effect from the signing of the economic agreement for Russia cannot really manifest itself in full until several years hence since so far none of the partners has enough funds. What is happening here is that the recognition of the ruble as the sole legal tender across a considerable part of the post-Soviet space, the harmonization of budgetary and money emission policy, and so forth constitutes a serious political gain for Moscow—and not only on the tactical plane.

The signs are that out of the two options—preserving for Russia the geopolitical space of the former Union in the south or taking a tougher approach in economic cooperation with the countries of Central Asia—the present authorities of the Russian Federation have chosen the second.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 1 Oct

LD0110071993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0704 GMT 1 Oct 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 1 (ITAR-TASS)—Central newspapers continue to focus their attention today on the confrontation between the president and the parliament. NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries an article on this subject under the headline "Conflicting Parties Start Searching for Peaceful Ways To Overcome the Crisis, but Tension in Moscow Does Not Subside." It writes: "The Russian and Moscow Governments have demanded that Speaker of Parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov and Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy organise the withdrawal of all people from the 'White House' and the adjacent territory along with the handing in of weapons and munitions to representatives of the prosecutor-general's office and the Interior Ministry. In their turn, the government of the Russian Federation and the Moscow Government promise to ensure security, freedom of political and public activities, freedom of stay and movement in Moscow and of departure to other regions of Russia for all those who voluntarily leave the 'White House' and hand it weapons. The non-fulfilment of this demand may have grave consequences, for which Khasbulatov and Rutskoy will be fully responsible."

Another article, published by the newspaper, says: "On Thursday heads of the major unions and associations of Russian business circles and industrial enterprises ... urged Boris Yeltsin to respond positively to the initiatives of a number of leaders of subjects of the Russian Federation ... According to the authors of that letter, the lifting of the 'blockade of the house of soviets, which is disgracing us before the whole world' and the termination of armed confrontation should be the first steps towards reconciliation."

Another article, published by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, is entitled "blockade of parliament building is tightening." It says: "The encirclement of the 'White House' has been reinforced with armoured vehicles for more than 24 hours. There are not many of them—some four or five near the Barrikadnaya Metro Station and two or three near the former CMEA building, now housing the headquarters of the forces, besieging the 'White House'. Armoured vehicles will hardly be ever used to suppress demonstrations, although on Thursday they produced an irritating effect on people."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes in an article entitled "Regions Tired of Moscow Confrontation": "One may assess the Thursday meeting of representatives of subjects of the federation in the Ilyinka Street in different ways, to overestimate or underestimate its significance, but one thing is clear: A voice came from the regions, which cannot but strike a dissonant note for Yeltsin."

In a short article, entitled "Witch Hunt in Power Ministries. Those Who are Not Loyal Will be Sacked", NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes: "When asked to confirm or refute information that messages are being sent to regional branches of the Security Ministry, signed by Sergey Stepashin, former chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Defence and Security, which demand that those security officers who responded negatively to the decisions of President Yeltsin be sacked, Aleksey Kondaurov (head of the public relations centre of the Security Ministry) said 'no comment'."

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA also carries an article on that subject, which says: "The authorities find it increasingly difficult to show that the 'White House' is really fighting for its privileges. Privileges are by the other side of barbed wire, quite close, in the Novy Arbat street. It is there that the centre for defector legislators is situated. Jobs and allowances are being distributed by former people's deputies, which is especially cynical."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes about rumours that some army units got out of control. Russian First Deputy Defence Minister Andrey Kokoshin told its correspondent that "the army continues to live its normal life, troops are engaged in military training, a series of military exercises is being completed. All this is being done according to the schedule."

PRAVDA carries an interview with chairman of the council of the republic of the dissolved parliament Veniamin Sokolov who said that "the future of our country is being decided in the House of Soviets." In his opinion, "a regular psychological war has been unleashed against people's deputies. All is being done to demoralize them. A semblance of preparations for an assault is made every night."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries a list of 100 leading politicians of Russia, made in September by the public opinion service. Yeltsin tops the list, Khasbulatov and Rutskoy come third and fourth.

On October 1 another two St. Petersburg factories began to produce and sell arms, specifically, gas revolvers with the calibre of eight and nine millimetres, NEVSKOE VREMYA writes. According to smena, the price of gasoline will not be increased in St. Petersburg in October.

IZVESTIYA Summarizes Clinton Speech at UN

PM3009114593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 93 First Edition p 3

[Vladimir Nadein report: "New Generation of Politicians Present Their Claims to the United Nations"]

[Text] Washington—If Japan had not contributed $194 million for specific peacekeeping operations on the eve of the start of the UN General Assembly session, the opening of the session could not have taken place.

"The revival of the United Nations remains in doubt," Secretary General Butrus-Ghali noted sadly in his weekly report, which was published just a few hours before the opening of the General Assembly. Some 4,800 UN employees will receive half-pay in October. Documents will be distributed in only two working languages—English and French—instead of five. Ministers and delegates were asked to linger not a moment after 1800 hours--there is no money to pay overtime for staff.

The United States owes the United Nations more than $800 million. The country pays much more than any other member for the international organization located on its territory. Sums which, according to the Charter are supposed to be paid at the beginning of the year, the United States pays around Christmas time.

Clinton did not try to excuse this. On the contrary, he called for the financial burden imposed on the United States to be reviewed as soon as possible, transparently hinting that otherwise it would be very difficult to persuade Congress to pay the designated sum, which, in a world that has changed radically for the United States, has been fixed since 1973.

In addition, the U.S. President proposed that all options be calculated more thoroughly, not during but before begining any operation. Manifestly hinting at the well-known luxuries enjoyed by top UN functionaries, Clinton recalled the ordinary people the world over who "pay our bills."

The new generation, it follows from the entire spirit of Clinton's speech, intends to make not only high, but also tough demands on the United Nations.

The U.S. President expressed his country's readiness not to go into an isolationist shell, as very many of his critics in the United States are insisting, but to fulfill with dignity the obligations of leader of the world community. However, he continued, "we cannot be drawn into every conflict, and we cannot resolve every (international) problem." Discounting a certain sphere of concerns connected with the defense of its national interests, the United States prefers to cooperate in all other matters with the international community.

This turning point in history, as Clinton described our times, is characterized by three main achievements: the end of state-instituted racism in South Africa; democracy in Russia; and the peace process in the Near East. He denied the suggestion that democracy is not suitable for all nations. From Poland to Chile, from Cambodia to South Korea, democracy geared toward the market economy, he said, is proving its necessity to people.

The President stated with conviction that no country will be able to survive in the 21st century with its windows shut tight, and that the international success of one nation or another is an important contribution to general prosperity. "Prosperity and democracy in Russia not only strengthen international security; they also promote world prosperity."

Bill Clinton called for rigid regulations to ensure the nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological weapons and intercontinental delivery systems, and also of enriched uranium and plutonium.

Successful cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues with "Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and others" was described by Clinton as one of the most striking testimonies to the changes in the world. However, nowadays the U.S. Administration, to judge from his words, is concerned not so much over the possession of such weapons by entirely responsible states as over the likelihood of their finding their way into the hands of terrorists. And here the inheritors of the former USSR cause the world community certain anxieties.

Clinton promised not to resume nuclear weapons tests, provided that all nuclear countries also keep to this. He also called for a halt to the testing of ballistic delivery systems. All countries ("including my country," Clinton stressed) should adopt legislation to ban the use and production of chemical and bacteriological weapons.

Bill Clinton considers that the task for the international community is to help secure a place at the table for every person on the planet. Hence "we simply cannot allow" the current unrestricted growth in the population of the planet, he said, calling on the United Nations to draw up international programs for family planning and birth control.

He spoke with deep alarm about the fact that no fewer than 40 million of the children who die every year on the planet could be saved with the aid of simple inoculations.

Clinton was twice interrupted by applause, which is considered a pretty good result from this restrained audience.

Speech Provokes 'Great Interest'

LD3009204693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2022 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS--The speech by U.S. President Bill Clinton at the 48th session of the U.N. General Assembly on September 27 provoked great

interest in Russia. "We highly appreciate the U.S. support to the course of our reforms", the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a commentary released on Thursday [30 September].

The commentary noted that the Clinton speech had proved to "the identity of the principal positions taken by the United States and Russia as regards the key tasks of the post-confrontation period". As super power, Russia intends to continue active cooperation with the United States and other countries in fulfilling these tasks.

Moscow understands quite well the importance of initiatives moved by Clinton with an aim to tighten the regime of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons non-proliferation, which is a top priority of Russia's foreign policy as well, the document went on to say.

We also favour the U.S. intention to press for the signing of an international agreement imposing a ban on the production of splitting materials for weapons, which is in full agreement with earlier proposals by the Russian president. "We come out for establishing by the year 2000 a controllable and transparent international regime prohibiting these materials", the Foreign Ministry commentary noted.

"We hail the U.S. intention to work for transforming the existing regimes of export control, including missile technology control, into universal mechanisms to prevent proliferation of armaments and dangerous technologies. These measures should be matched with ensuring equal interests of all states in the sphere of international scientific and technical cooperation, as well as with lifting restrictions inherent from the Cold War stand-off on Russia's entering world markets of high technologies", the commentary stressed.

We would like the Russian and U.S. initiatives for imposing a moratorium on nuclear explosions to result in a full ban on nuclear tests.

We clearly see the need to step up international efforts aiming to regulate regional conflicts, to increase the effectiveness of U.N. moves to prepare and implement peace-keeping missions. It is Russia that largely bears peace-making burden in settling crises in the former Soviet Union, therefore it hopes the international community will provide an actual support to these efforts, the Foreign Ministry statement said in conclusion.

Kozyrev in NY, Meets OAS Secretary General

LD0110001893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2032 GMT 29 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Text] United Nations, 29 Sep—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev today met Joao Clemente Baena Soares, secretary general of the OAS, in New York. It was noted during the talks that the granting to Russia of permanent observer status at the OAS is opening up ever greater possibilities for cooperation with this powerful organization. The sides called the decision by the Russian leadership to assist in removing mines from former areas of conflict in Central America, a concrete example of such cooperation.

Discusses Abkhazia With Clinton

LD3009152393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0806 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Washington September 30 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said after a meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton at the White House on Wednesday [29 September] that the two sides discussed the situation in Abkhazia.

"The position of our two countries is clear," the minister said. "We believe it is necessary to cease fire, to establish peace in that region and grant people the right to decide their destiny for themselves. It is important now to find a way to achieve these goals."

The meeting also discussed the situation in some other regions of the former Soviet Union. According to a U.S. Administration high-ranking official who refused to be identified, Clinton confirmed that the United States favours the earliest withdrawal of Russian troops from Latvia and Estonia and suggested that the sides should draft a pullout schedule in the near future.

The President pointed to the need for ensuring the rights of the Russian-speaking population and other national minorities in the Baltics.

Clinton and Kozyrev expressed hope that a meeting of the Minsk group of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe on a peaceful settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh, scheduled for November 2, would be successful.

They pointed to the need for close cooperation between Russia and the United States within this organisation in promoting the conclusion of a ceasefire agreement between the warring sides.

The U.S. Administration representative noted that Kozyrev stressed the proximity of the Russian and American positions on U.N. peace-keeping operations.

The minister agreed with the U.S. President's opinion on the need for raising efficiency and improving the mechanism of such missions undertaken by the international community.

Meets EC Counterparts

LD3009173693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0832 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitkinov]

[Text] United Nations September 30 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev met with foreign

ministers of the European Community member countries in New York on Wednesday [29 September].

The sides discussed issues of further development of Russia's relations with the European Community. According to mutual opinion, the signing of a large-scale agreement on partnership and cooperation would contribute to entering of mutual ties between Russia and the Commonwealth into a qualitatively new level.

Comments on Role as Peacekeeper

LD3009180293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1433 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Russia has no serious differences with the U.S. over UN peace keeping operations. INTERFAX' special correspondent reports that the foreign minister made this statement in New York where he is attending the 48th session of the UN General Assembly and has met with President Bill Clinton and State Secretary Warren Christopher.

Responding to the question if it was true that the U.S. Administration gave its blessing for Russia to act as a policeman in resolving conflict inside the former USSR, Kozyrev said: "It is life (that makes us do it). The Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze knocked on any door asking to send more Russian troops there when Georgia found itself in dire straits."

In Kozyrev's words, Christopher and himself agreed that Russia faced a choice between pulling out its troops from the war zone, watching Georgians and Abkhazians kill each other, and setting up "normal peace keeping forces with UN aid."

The Russian foreign minister said that as it acts as a peace keeper within the former USSR's borders, "unlike the Americans, Russia pays for everything itself." He said that U.S. troops dominate the peace keeping force in Somalia but it is the UN that foots the bill.

He thinks that there is no alternative to Russian participation in resolving conflicts within the former USSR's borders "but we want to do this with UN and CSCE aid. We ask for help but, regrettably, receive no response."

Addresses Foreign Policy Association

LD0110045493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1436 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Kolesnichenko]

[Text] New York, September 30 (TASS)—"The world has become multipolar after the end of the 'cold war'. New problems have appeared, such as the proliferation of mass destruction weapons and the escalation of regional conflicts, which have flared up due to national and religious intolerance," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told members of the Foreign Policy Association here on Wednesday evening [29 September].

"In many regions the danger of nuclear annihilation was replaced by the danger of chaos," he noted. "The democratic forces of the West and the east have still not worked out an concerted general strategy to do away with this threat. Not only the obtained 'peace dividends' may be lost as a result of this, but peace in general. The very nature of these problems calls for prompt and radical decisions, such as the ones taken during the Gulf War."

Recalling the conflicts in former Yugoslavia and in Nagorny Karabakh, the Russian minister pointed out that their settlement called for joint efforts. "And the problem of leadership arises here again. I do not mean the restoration of the dictatorship of one or several 'superpowers', which are apt to assume the role of a 'world policeman'. We presume that such a leadership presupposes primarily solidarity and partnership between the old and new democracies, united as they are by the common goal of upholding freedom and achieving democracy."

The Russian foreign minister then pinpointed several basic priorities. "Firstly," he said, "it is necessary to work out a joint strategy to do away with the current conflicts and to prevent new ones. The traditional policy of coexistence between military blocs is unable to exclude new seats of instability. The military alliances, such as NATO, are unable to resolve such problems. A solution should be sought not in the expansion of the North Atlantic Alliance, but in the qualitative transformation of this bloc, its adaptation to peace-keeping efforts. It is very important to integrate the NATO into a global system of peacekeeping institutions under U.N. command. Secondly, we must not ignore the tension inherited from the confrontation period." In this connection, Kozyrev adduced the example of Afghanistan, the conflict in which has begun to affect the republics of the former USSR. "This is a global, not a regional problem," the Russian foreign minister stressed. He urged the United Nations to focus its attention on conflicts that require the interference of the international community. Kozyrev pointed in this connection to the situation in Abkhazia and Nagorny Karabakh. "Thirdly," he said, "it is necessary to prevent the distortion of universally recognised standards in the sphere of human rights. And, finally, it is necessary to do away with the 'cold war' heritage in the sphere of economic relations."

Turning to the political situation in Russia, Kozyrev said in part: "What must be done to stop the state's disintegration? The answer is—the establishment of a strong democratic leadership, which will come out in defence of the reforms. We need a leadership, not a 'strong hand', which is wanted by the opposition, representated by national-communists. The presidential power in Russia is the only power elected by the people and it can ensure such a leadership. Having received a double mandate—first during the presidential elections and then in the course of the latest referendum, Boris Yeltsin has taken resolute steps to ensure democratic elections to the

parliament this December. As a result, the old totalitarian system of government will be done away with once and for all."

Holds Other Talks

LD3009204793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By correspondent Sergey Goryachev from Washington with recorded remarks by President Clinton, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, and First Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin—President Clinton speaking in English fading to Russian translation; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] It is a small world. On the other side of the world, in America, the events in Russia are the topic of the day. They continue commenting on a remark by Secretary of State Christopher, who said the United States would react negatively to possible violence against the parliamentarians and any other violations of human rights. This warning was described as a change in the administration's stand. Therefore, we put the following question to the U.S. President: The meeting with Andrey Kozyrev—was it an excuse to express concern or support?

[Clinton] To express support. I hope everything will be all right. I express my firm support for President Yeltsin's efforts aimed at democratic elections of legislative power, for the adoption of the new Constitution and for the fact that he himself is ready for new presidential elections.

[Goryachev] Andrey Kozyrev brought a message from Boris Yeltsin to the U.S. President. Here are some details.

[Kozyrev] The president appreciates the efforts taken by President Clinton to get through Congress a cooperation package—a total sum amounts to approximately $3.5 billion for various programs to support economic reforms in Russia.

[Goryachev] But only what is viable is worth investing in—this is the opinion of major world bankers. About a hour ago the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank ended in Washington. We were interested only in things concerning Russia. First Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin:

[Shokhin] Russia has money at present which it has to pay and it will pay it in accordance with its obligations.

[Goryachev] One must pay one's debts. And one will have to pay one's debts. But, according to the first deputy prime minister, it is thanks to the reform that we now have the money. Therefore, perhaps, the role of the United States and of other countries should not be exaggerated. In the long run, fundamental decisions on Russia's future are not made in Washington.

Comments on Human Rights in Baltics

LD0110045893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0400 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Russia is actively insisting on the observance of civil rights of the Russian-speaking population and other ethnic minorities in the new independent states. Andrey Kozyrev, the foreign minister of the Russian Federation, stated this at a meeting on Thursday [30 September] with representatives of American and international humanitarian and human rights organizations. He especially stressed that the more reliable the guarantees of the rights of ethnic minorities recorded in the legislations of Estonia and Latvia are, the more promptly and successfully the withdrawal of Russian troops from those countries will be completed. He called upon human rights campaigners to help ensure this in all possible ways.

Speaking on the dissolution of the Supreme Soviet, Andrey Kozyrev said that it was a product of the Soviet epoch and had become a stronghold of reactionary forces. The fact of its being disbanded means that now truly free and democratic elections can be held. As for Russian President Yeltsin, his determination to subject himself to a trial by free elections for a third time bears witness to his democratic attitudes and shows that all accusations of his behaving dictatorially are groundless.

Fedorov Signs Debt Rescheduling Deal With U.S.

LD0110015193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0035 GMT 1 Oct 93

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Vanichkin, Andrey Loshchilin]

[Excerpts] Washington, 1 Oct—U.S. Secretary of Treasury Lloyd Bentsen and the Russian Finance Minister Boris Fedorov signed in Washington on Thursday [30 September] an accord on rescheduling the paying off by Russia of its debt to America. Under the agreement, Moscow undertakes to pay a part of the debt, totalling over $400 million by the end of this year while the remaining $1.1 billion will be repaid over a period of 10 years. [passage omitted]

Deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers Aleksandr Shokhin, who was also present at the signing ceremony on Thursday, said that the American-Russian agreement "in fact marks the completion of the process of our bilateral talks" with the member states of the Paris Club which unites the world's biggest creditors.

At present the total foreign debt of Moscow is estimated at $80 billion. A. Shokhin said that an agreement on the rescheduling of a $26 billion Russian debt to private banks in the West is expected to be signed in Frankfurt am Main, FRG, next week.

Chernomyrdin Receives U.S. Secretary for Energy

LD3009182493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1605 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin today met with United States Minister of Energy Hazel O'Leary to discuss the development of collaboration between Russia and the United States in the area of the fuel and energy sector.

After the meeting, Chernomyrdin told ITAR-TASS about the results of the meeting and plans for specifying agreements reached during the Russian prime minister's recent visit to the United States.

"In the United States some weeks ago, we only took the first step. We determined the guidelines for our collaboration, and now is the time to begin implementing our plans," he said.

According to the Russian Cabinet leader, he and the American minister scrutinized collaboration in the oil and natural gas sector, nuclear power engineering, safety of nuclear power stations, and ways to conserve energy resources.

Chernomyrdin said the discussion also touched on the issue of extending the moratorium on nuclear testing.

Asked whether they discussed supplies of Russian enriched uranium to the world market under contracts with the United States minister of energy, O'Leary answered that "today we focused our attention primarily on the questions of collaboration in projects which Viktor Chernomirdin has already announced."

The U.S. minister emphasized the interest of the United States Government and business circles in collaborating with Russia in the oil sector on conditions of mutual benefit.

Viktor Chernomyrdin told journalists he hoped that U.S. Vice-President Al Gore's visit to Moscow in the middle of December will give a new impetus to the development of collaborations between the two countries.

Also today, Chernomyrdin met with the managers of the American company "Dressor."

Shafranik, O'Leary Interviewed

LD0110063893 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1200 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Interview with Y. K. Shafranik, minister of fuel and energy complex, and U.S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary by correspondent Sergey Omelchenko; from the "Novosti" newscast—live or recorded]

[Text] [Omelchenko] Russia's new energy policy needs to be developed dynamically throughout the whole of the fuel and energy complex. In international cooperation one of the first steps in this direction were the talks between Yuriy Shafranik and U.S. Secretary of Energy O'Leary, determining the priorities and the steps for attracting capital into Russia.

Congress has approved the program of economic aid to Russia, Mrs. O'Leary noted. Therefore we should define specific projects today, and after an accord has been reached, a series of joint enterprises will be set up. Mrs. O'Leary defined U.S. interests in developing Russia's power engineering in the following manner: "If Russia becomes a prosperous country, it will be good for the whole world." [Omelchenko turns to Shafranik] Here one cannot help drawing parallels from history. Back in the twenties Russia cooperated actively with the United States and the main power engineering facilities were set up with U.S. help. Yuriy Konstantinovich, what are the most interesting large-scale projects that are being examined here at this meeting?

[Shafranik] These are major projects that everyone has heard about, in Sakhalin, in Komi, the Arkhangelsk zone of development, Tyumen. These are projects connected with developing monitoring equipment.

[Omelchenko] Will you become involved in the development of machine building for the energy sector or in power engineering itself?

[Shafranik] First and foremost machine tool building, and by means of it in power engineering as well.

[Omelchenko] Is that advantageous to the U.S. side?

[O'Leary in English with superimposed Russian translation] Absolutely, highly advantageous. We are interested in trading in energy resources with Russia. To do this we have to create a modern infrastructure in your country. This is what we are preparing to become engaged in.

[Shafranik] We are setting as our main goal the creation of conditions for business in Russia and for business in America.

U.S. Motives in Pressing Japan Missile Link Viewed

PM2909094593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 93 First Edition p 4

[Sergey Agafonov report: "Japanese Fear North Korean Missiles. Lockheed Fears Russian Competitors"]

[Text] Tokyo—The United States has suggested that Japan take part in creating an air defense system with the ability to intercept and destroy intermediate-range missiles in the atmosphere. The U.S. deputy defense secretary has arrived in Tokyo with this idea for joint development.

According to this scenario, encouraged on a wave of increasing fear in the face of the DPRK's missile successes, the two countries will work together to create a new air defense system which will be a modernized

version of the Patriot system. According to the U.S. plan, the development will take five years and cost $12 billion. At the same time it has been stressed somewhat slyly that the United States is interested first and foremost not in Japan's money but in ensuring security in the region and the possibility of using Japan's advanced achievements in electronics and composite materials.

The American idea, in the form in which it was presented to the Japanese, is not actually new but is just a part of the Pentagon's grand design to create an ABM defense system. The project is costly and complex and, given the present improvement in the climate in the world, not at all urgent. But to abandon it after billions have been spent on research would be a shame and therefore, at the suggestion of the project's general contractor—the Lockheed corporation —a part of the major strategic project is now being offered to the Japanese.

The program is oriented toward combating intermediate-range missiles, and its purpose is to destroy the target either in or as it leaves the atmosphere. Japan is alarmed at the news of North Korea's successful tests of a new modification of the Nodon-1 missile (a version of the Scud missile bought from the USSR, with a range of 1,000 km). This means that in practice the two main islands of Japan, Hokkaido and Honshu, are under threat. The Americans did not neglect to play on the fear generated by the North Korean missiles, reinforced by reports on Pyongyang's nuclear and bacteriological development work.

Even before the Pentagon delegation's arrival, Lockheed's headquarters invited and paid for a group of influential Japanese specialists well versed in the technical and financial details of the program to visit the United States at the beginning of September. Prime Minister Hosokawa stated recently in parliament that the government is studying the U.S. proposal on missile cooperation and will definitely give the partners a reply soon.

According to informed sources in Tokyo, the American haste and vigor can be attributed not just to the financial interests of Lockheed and the Pentagon but also to another important factor—Russia.

The Patriot air defense system, which they are intending to improve, showed its impotence against Scud missiles during the war in the Persian Gulf. Neither the United States nor anyone else in the world has an effective weapon against these missiles at the moment—no one apart from Russia. According to the U.S. scenario, what will take five years' work and cost $12 billion to develop already exists in the Russian air defense system and is significantly cheaper. It is this aspect, according to those in the know, which explains the U.S. attitude and the elevation of the project to the level of interstate relations. The interested circles are going to do everything possible to ensure that the Japanese-U.S. "joint venture" ultimately takes place.

Latest Moscow Document on MIA's Viewed

PM3009125293 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 93 First Edition p 3

[Boris Vinogradov report: "Secret Document From GRU Archives Prevented Clinton From Lifting Trade Embargo Against Vietnam"]

[Excerpt] A further document about the fate of U.S. pilots who went missing in action in Vietnam, this time extracted from Soviet military intelligence archives and handed over to the U.S. side by Dmitriy Volkogonov, "contains facts which do not correspond to reality."

This is the conclusion reached by Pentagon experts who ha[illegible]been checking the truth of figures cited in the d[illegible]ent for the number of U.S. prisoners held in [illegible]n during the Indochina war.

President Clinton declared that the embargo on trade with Vietnam that has operated for 29 years already is to be extended for at least one more year. Observers consider that the U.S. Administration was influenced by the "new Russian document."

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed its doubts over the authenticity of the document discovered in Moscow. Grigoriy Karasin, director of the information department, stated: "The fact that the appearance of this, in our view, far from truthful information occurs at a time when the process of improving U.S.-Vietnamese relations is close to completion, raises doubts." [passage omitted]

Minister Rejects U.S. Communications Equipment

MK3009144393 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 59, 30 Sep 93 (signed to press 29 Sep) p 6

[Unattributed report under the "In the Former USSR" rubric based on INTERFAX, RIA-NOVOSTI, and POSTFACTUM reports: "Communications Ministry Opposes American-Style Communications"]

[Text] Russian Communications Minister Vladimir Bulgak has warned commercial businesses against holding futile talks, let alone making purchases of equipment from American producers of electronic communications designed to be switched to general-use networks. This equipment's technical characteristics are, as a rule, incompatible with current Russian standards. The minister favored the retention of full government control over general-use communication networks on Russian territory, which is in line with what has been practiced by most European countries. "If our immediate neighbors in Europe and Asia refrain from using American communication technologies, the use of such technologies in Russia will be out of the question," he emphasized.

Georgian Envoy Seeks Aid for Refugees

LD3009165493 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1330 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] At the Embassy of the Republic of Georgia in Moscow today, there was a news conference on the events in Abkhazia. We have the embassy's press secretary, David Dimitrashvili, on the telephone. Good day, we are listening.

[Dimitrashvili] Hello, dear listeners in Russia. The Embassy of the Republic of Georgia in the Russian Federation today has received an appeal from the Government of the Republic of Georgia which says, in part: Saving the refugees is now the most acute problem for Georgia. The Georgian Government has resolved to appeal to Russia, to the West, and to international organizations with this request alone. It is now essential to evacuate the population of Gulripsh, which is occupied. The people are without food, drink, and warm clothing for traveling, and without anyone to look after them. It is essential to evacuate the population from Ochamchira, which is threatened with disaster. According to the most recent information, 15 buses carrying guerrillas and the most up-to-date combat equipment, mostly heavy, have come in from the direction of Psou.

The total number of refugees is approaching 100,000-120,000. Of these, 60,000-80,000 are in the hills. The overwhelming majority are children, including nursing babies, women, and the elderly. Georgia's most important task now is to save these people. It is with precisely this aim in mind that the Georgian Government is appealing to all those mentioned above, asking them for immediate aid.

At the news conference, Valerian Georgiyevich Advadze, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Russia, told journalists: Bloody ethnic cleansing is being carried out in the town of Sukhumi following its seizure by the Gudauta guerrillas. As well as the murder of Zhiuli Shartava, the chairman of the cabinet of ministers, and his aide (Mami Alasania), an officer in the Georgian intelligence directorate, the majority of the members of Abkhazia's cabinet of ministers were killed. Londor Tsaava, an adviser to Eduard Shevardnadze, died.

The entire troupe of the Sukhumi State Theater was destroyed, including the actor Jaiani, with his family. The fate of the bishop of Sukhumi is unknown.

The Georgian villages around Gulripsh are in a grave situation. Some of these have been forced to save themselves from the Gudauta cutthroats by fleeing to the town on foot. An extremely grave situation has developed around Ochamchira, as I have already said. At the moment it is being subjected to intensive bombardment from the Abkhaz guerrillas. It has even been announced that the town will be taken in the next few days, and then not a single Georgian will be left in the town. One hour ago Ochamchira was taken, and one can only guess how many Georgians are left there.

The Georgian population in the village of Tsava are also in a grave predicament. Some of these people were forced to save themselves by fleeing on Russian vessels from the Gudauta cutthroats .

A special parliamentary group has been set up in Tbilisi to give assistance to the refugees. I would like to conclude today's summary with a quotation from Eduard Shevardnadze's parting statement at a news conference held in Tbilisi today: I did not leave Sukhumi for 10 days. It is impossible to describe everything that happened there. There has been nothing like it since the German fascists. The separatist interventionists have destroyed and burned the town. According to information at our disposal, after the capture of the town, totally innocent people were shot—ministry employees, police, and townspeople. It is our aim to return to the territory which is occupied and to restore territorial integrity. If our generation is not able to do this, the next will. Talking about tomorrow, I think that the people will understand. Finally, thank you to the Georgian and Western press for their timely and objective coverage and precise assessment of events. We only need the truth in coverage of these events.

For my part, I would like to thank the Mayak editorial office for giving me the opportunity of imparting this information to you. Thank you.

Ambassador Blames Supreme Soviet for Georgia's Collapse

LD3009180993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1737 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS—Georgian Ambassador in Moscow Valerian Advadze said the fall of Sukhumi meant a collapse of Georgia which can no longer resist Abkhazian armed formations.

"The fact of a practical collapse of the Georgian state is evident. A catastrophic situation emerged in economy, the financial and political systems have collapsed", he told a press conference on Thursday [30 September].

Although in the current situation Georgia is incapable of fighting Abkhazian rebels, "it will never agree with the loss of Abkhazia and early or later it will be within Georgia", he added.

The ambassador put the main blame for the Georgian defeat on the dissolved Russian parliament, but added that the executive authority did not attempt to help Georgia.

"The fall of Sukhumi was the triumph of the former Russian Supreme Soviet which supports Abkhazian separatists". However, "democratic Russia did nothing to save democratic Georgia and Eduard Shevardnadze",

the ambassador said, evidently referring to President Boris Yeltsin and the government.

Quoting "officially unconfirmed data", Advadze said that the Russian Government had issued a 25-billion rouble credit to Abkhazia while Georgia was granted only a 10-billion rouble credit.

"Russia is losing, or might have lost already a true friend" as it had failed to implement the ceasefire it had brokered between the conflicting sides because it "does not undertake steps to stop further offensive of Abkhazian formations", the ambassador said.

He also blasted ousted Georgian president Zviad Gamsakhurdia for "treacherous policy". Armed attacks of Gamsakhurdia's supporters distracted government forces from the Abkhazian front, according to the ambassador who said that at present Gamsakhurdia's forces disarm retreating Georgian soldiers.

Russian Policy Toward Abkhazia Condemned

MK3009121793 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 59, 30 Sep 93 (signed to press 29 Sep) p 3

[Mikhail Leontyev commentary under "Dangerous Games" rubric: "Abkhazia Is the Unconquered Territory of the Russian Parliament. Separatist Gangs in Georgia Are Conducting an Offensive Against Russia"]

[Text] Having thwarted the accords reached with Russia's mediation, the Gudauta bosses began an offensive not only against the positions of the Georgian forces but also against Russia. Russia's involvement in the Abkhazian cease-fire was not only of a mediating character. Russia was practicably the sole guarantor of the agreement: Russian ships were used to take Georgian military equipment out of Sukhumi, and Russian military observers verified the cease-fire. Relying on the Russian guarantees, Georgia provided to the Russian Army conditions for preserving its military infrastructure on its territory. Strategic cooperation between Georgia and Russia, vitally interested in mutual guarantees of territorial integrity, would have been a serious blow against separatists threatening to drag Russia into an endless Caucasian war. Therefore the first reaction from General Grachev, who stated that the Russian Army would defend Sukhumi against the Abkhazian offensive, was a normal and adequate reaction from a soldier. One would like to think that the minister's subsequent "conciliatory" statements as well as the "intermediary" endeavors by the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry are attributable in the first place to the specific situation inside the country, when the president cannot afford to involve the army into an armed conflict. Otherwise the behavior of the Russian leadership should be assessed as unprovoked treachery with the aim of suicide.

As of now the fact is that Russia has ignored its guarantees with respect to Georgia, catastrophically undermining not only its position in a strategically important region but also the position of pro-Russian forces in the Caucasus, especially Georgia.

It is no secret to anyone how separatist formations have come by heavy military equipment and qualified military specialists in such numbers. Russian generals and military bosses acting under the political cover of the people entrenched in the White House on Krasnopresnenskaya Naberezhnaya took part in the Sukhumi offensive operation against Russia. The "Achalov" generals, crazy with their hatred of Shevardnadze, may not understand that together with the united formations of North Caucasian extremists, they are now fighting precisely against Russia. So far it appears to be easier for the "Soviet" opposition to provide military hardware to the long standing "ally" Ardzinba in the Caucasus than to distribute assault rifles among the volunteer defenders of the parliament in Moscow because there, in contrast to Moscow, influential forces are directly interested in them. These forces are objectively anti- Russian. It is considered expedient in the Kremlin today to ignore this, as it were. However, when the political situation in Moscow stabilizes, it will no longer be possible to fail to see this.

In the present situation, the Abkhazian separatist leadership is not a full-fledged side in the conflict for Russia from the international legal, moral, or—most importantly—even the geopolitical point of view. However, if the Russian political crisis drags out for a long time and Moscow continues to demonstrate an ostrich stand in Abkhazia, then, taking a look from under the sand, it may see a totally different and extremely unpleasant situation for itself in Georgia and the Caucasus. On the other hand, the first signs of stabilization are finally giving hope that we shall eventually stop turning separatist gang formations in the Caucasus into semilegitimate political opponents jeopardizing peace in Russia itself.

Problem Areas in Talks With Latvia Viewed

PM3009111993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Sep 93 First Edition p 4

[Irina Litvinova report: "Talks Have Resumed Between Latvia and Russia in Jurmala"]

[Text] "Events in Moscow have nothing to do with talks between Latvia and Russia," this remark by Russian delegation leader Sergey Zotov in an interview with Latvian television is being cited by local mass media.

Having arrived for another round of talks between the two states, special envoy S. Zotov stated that the Russian delegation possesses powers granted by the president, a mandate, and appropriate instructions. This was the first appearance in the Latvian delegation of new members following the summer elections to the Saeima. It is headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Martins Virsis.

Unfortunately—and this was acknowledged by both sides—it was not possible to achieve a rapprochement of

positions on the main treaty regarding the timetable for withdrawing Russian troops from Latvia. Latvia is naming the end of this year as the final date for withdrawal, whereas Russia is insisting on the end of next year. Nor do the two sides' views coincide on the contentious problem of retaining three strategic installations on the republic's territory—the military port at Liepaja, the missile early warning system at Skrunda, and the space intelligence station at Ventspils—following the withdrawal of Russian troops. Russian delegation head S. Zotov said that what they were talking about was the temporary retention of these installations until similar ones were constructed in Russia, and moreover it was planned to do this strictly on a treaty basis. This approach does not suit the Latvian side.

On Wednesday experts worked on initialing an agreement on visits by citizens and inhabitants of the two states to each other and simplifying border crossings by inhabitants of border regions, and also coordinated a consular convention.

Yeltsin Against European States Joining NATO

LD0110085493 Warsaw TV Polonia Network in Polish 2300 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Report by telephone by correspondent Iwona Parchimowicz from Moscow; introductory grafs read by announcer]

[Text] President Boris Yeltsin is against the central and eastern European countries joining NATO. In a letter sent to the leaders of France, Germany, the United States, and Britain, the Russian president refers to the two plus four agreement signed by the former Soviet Union in connection with the unification of Germany three years ago.

The NATO states bound themselves at that time not to accept any new members. During his recent visit to Warsaw Yeltsin said that Poland had a free hand to join the Atlantic Treaty.

[Parchimowicz] Nobody has officially confirmed this information in Moscow, but I have learned unofficially that Yeltsin hopes that Russia will have better relations with the North Atlantic Treaty than central and eastern European countries. Yeltsin has proposed that the western leaders form a joint security treaty with Russia. According to Yeltsin, international agreements signed by the West with the Soviet Union toward the end of the cold war preclude the possibility of accepting new members into NATO. Yeltsin also wants to nullify all arguments from the Russian nationalists who accuse the Kremlin of weakening the international stand of the Russian state. Minister of Foreign Affairs Kozyrev is most probably the author of Yeltsin's appeal to Western countries not to enlarge the NATO membership.

[Announcer] NATO refuses to comment on Yeltsin's letter, but western diplomats in Brussels claim that it may delay Poland's and Hungary's acceptance into NATO. One NATO politician holds the view that it was the army that forced the change of mind upon Yeltsin by blackmailing him, to the effect that they would refuse to support him in his power struggle with the Parliament. According to the same politician, the Atlantic Treaty knows that Russia pays special attention to the security of its borders, but as a democratic country it has to be aware that it has no right whatsoever to exert influence on other states' decisions on enlarging the treaty.

[Polish] Defense Minister Janusz Onyszkiewicz refuses to comment on the reports of Boris Yeltsin's letter. He will do so after he has received official reaction from the Western states. Colonel Leszek Ziolo, the minister's spokesman, said that Boris Yeltsin's decision is a great surprise.

Minister Andrzej Drzycimski, the [Polish] president's spokesman, also refuses to comment on it. The Belweder [Polish presidential residence] will address itself to Boris Yeltsin's letter after reading it.

Grachev Remarks at Meeting With Hungarian Counterpart

PM3009175193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Oct 93 p 1

[Sergey Sidorov report: "Army General Pavel Grachev: The Army is More Reliably Managed Than Ever"]

[Text] I am trying not to involve the Defense Ministry and the Armed Forces in politics. So far, thank God, this is working. Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian defense minister, stated at a meeting with his Hungarian counterpart Lajos Fur last Wednesday [29 September]. At present the Army is more reliably managed than ever before and is obeying all my orders more strictly and precisely than ever before. It has come out 100 percent in support of its supreme commander in chief and defense minister, despite the attempts to deceive and discredit the Armed Forces.

The situation in the country, in the Russian minister's words, has become "serious but can be resolved." "The people are being incited to disobedience, to hold unauthorized rallies, and to clash with the organs of power, especially the militia who are working to protect public order." Army Gen. P. Grachev viewed this as the "distant approaches to the beginning of a large-scale bloody conflict."

The Russian defense minister sees the solution in the thwarting of such actions by the Moscow City leadership, the internal affairs organs, the Prosecutor's Office, and other organizations responsible for public order.

The country is on the verge of winter, Pavel Grachev went on to note, but, instead of directing the main efforts toward gathering the harvest, society has been plunged into a situation of confrontation, which is stopping people working. In these conditions it is necessary to divert the Army from combat training exercises and send

a large number of servicemen to agricultural work. In the minister's opinion, the people have been given little information about this aspect of the Army's activity: The view is that "bread, potatoes, and carrots in the stores—these things can be taken for granted." Army Gen. P. Grachev announced that he has ordered that as of Thursday the reinforced guard be removed from all installations and a further 4,000-5,000 soldiers be sent to reinforce the 21,000 servicemen who are already engaged in harvesting work.

Chubays Concludes Visit to Sweden

LD0110074693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1604 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Volkov]

[Text] Stockholm, September 30 (TASS)—The economic situation and financial problems of Russia, the situation in the currency market of Sweden and local economic difficulties were in the focus of talks between the Russian Vice Premier Anatoly Chubays, who is also chairman of the State Property Managing Committee of the Russian Federation, and the Swedish Minister of Finance Anne Wibble.

The Swedish minister was interested in the processes of privitization in the neighboring country.

During his official three-day visit to the Scandinivain country, the Russian vice-premier held talks with Prime Minister Carl Bildt, and acted as a co-chairman of the first meeting of the supervisory committee on economic and commercial matters between Russia and Sweden. He also met with the deputy premier, minister of social Affairs, Bengt Westerberg.

Anatoly Chubays and the minister of European affairs, Ulf Dinkelspiel, who is Swedish co-chairman of the supervisory committee, signed a bilateral agreement on interaction in customs affairs and a protocol for the cessation of a number of trade and economic agreements concluded eariler between the Russian Federation and Sweden.

The Swedish side was particularly interested in Mr. Chubays' speech in the higher economic school as he discussed problems for privitization in light of the present political turmoil in Russia.

Problems of trade and economic collaboration, search for new forms of interaction in this sphere in conditions of a nascent market economy in Russia were discussed at a siminar in the industry house, organised by the business cooperation council "Sweden- Russia".

Mr. Chubays left for Moscow this afternoon.

Customs Cooperation Accord Signed With Sweden

LD3009124993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Russia's joining the market has put on the agenda the issues of expanding cooperation in the customs sphere between Russia and Sweden. This was stated by Anatoliy Kruglov, chairman of the Russian State Customs Committee, in an interview with ITAR-TASS. In Stockholm he signed a bilateral agreement on cooperation in customs affairs.

During the talks in Sweden, concern was expressed that nonferrous metals from Russia are being brought into the country via the Baltic states. In addition, there is an illegal flow of drugs, weapons, spirits, and art objects.

Khabarovsk Asks Chernomyrdin To Stop Chinese Ships' Access

LD2909214493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] In a letter to Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Government of Russia, the administration of Khabarovsk Kray has demanded that an agreement signed by the USSR Government with China in 1991 should be rescinded. In accordance with this agreement, Chinese vessels, including naval ships, can sail without impediment from the river Ussuri into the Amur past Khabarovsk and back. This has opened up free passage for masses of Chinese citizens to Khabarovsk.

The situation on the border has drastically deteriorated, the letter says. Chinese fishermen systematically break the fishing regulations. They attack shipping on the Amur in an attempt to steal cargoes for winter. This was stated today in a speech on the radio by Viktor Ishayev, head of the kray administration.

Border Violations Grow More Frequent in Far East

MK3009155893 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No 59, 30 Sep 93 (signed to press 29 Sep) p 6

[Unattributed report under the "In the Former USSR" rubric based on INTERFAX, RIA-NOVOSTI, and POSTFACTUM reports: "Far Eastern Borders Grow 'Transparent'"]

[Text] Border violations in the sector of the Pacific Ocean Border Troop District have become a common phenomenon. According to District Commander Major General Vitaliy Sedykh, the development of economic and tourist ties with China has aggravated the situation. During all of 1991, only 90 intruders were detained in the district's sector and less than 150 were detained in 1992, but in the first eight months of this year alone the number reached 200. Chinese citizens account for approximately 80 percent of the violations. They sneak into Russian territory for ginseng gathering, poaching, and smuggling transactions. According to Sedykh,

"Goods have been smuggled across the border not by amateurs, but by specially trained professionals who start doing this after a thorough reconnaissance of the ground and activity patterns of border troop details."

Sedykh described the situation in Russian territorial waters as extremely difficult also. In the area of the Southern Kuril Islands alone, since the beginning of the year over 6,500 incidents of intrusion into Russian waters by foreign fishing ships, primarily Japanese ones, have been registered, which is twice as many as last year.

PRC Border Issues Resolved; Status Quo Until 1997

LD0110110093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0843 GMT 1 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fomin]

[Text] Chita October 1 TASS—"Status quo will be preserved along the whole of Russo-Chinese border until demarcating procedures are finished, that is, till the end of 1997 at least," Russian ambassador at large Genrikh Kireyev told ITAR-TASS on Friday.

"The two parties reached a relevant agreement at a working meeting of a joint Russo-Chinese demarcating commission which was held in Hailar (China)," he added.

From the point of view of the commonly acknowledged principles of international law, many strips of the eastern part of the Russo- Chinese border were not clearly determined until recently. Thus, the two countries considered some of the islands washed by the Amur, Argun and Ussuri rivers to be of one's own, he said.

It was not until 1991 that the USSR and China signed an agreement, in accordance with which demarcating procedures are now underway. It was determined that the borderline should pass along the middle of the main waterway of navigable rivers, and along the middle of the main bed of non-navigable rivers separating Russia from China. As a result, some of the islands, which were used for economic activities by Russia, will be handed over to China and vice versa. However, according to the Hailar agreement, as was already mentioned, the status quo will be preserved until demarcating procedures are finished at the Russo-Chinese border.

According to Kireyev, the Chinese party welcomed Russia's proposal about joint economic use of the territory of the islands which are to change hands. The Chita regional administration has come out actively in favour of the proposal to defend the interests of the islanders.

Soviet-Japanese Declaration on Kurils 'Recognized'

LD0110093793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1611 GMT 30 Sep 93

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: Reports by diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Voskoboinikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy and others]

[Text] In his interview with INTERFAX on Thursday [30 September] a senior employee of the Russian Foreign Ministry declared that Russia recognizes the Soviet-Japanese declaration dated 1956 but does not deem it necessary to have this officially fixed by any special means.

He pointed out that as legal successor of the former USSR, Russia has taken on all of its international-legal obligations. "The Soviet-Japanese declaration of 1956 does not represent any exception," said the diplomat.

In his words, Moscow would not like to focus attention on this Soviet-Japanese declaration. "The former USSR had more than tens of thousands of international-legal documents. Having reconfirmed one of them, we would be forced to review all the others as well and this is colossal job," said INTERFAX's interlocutor.

As it is known, the Soviet-Japanese declaration dated 1956 provides for transfer of two out of four Southern-Kuril Islands to Japan after conclusion of a peace treaty between Moscow and Tokyo.

The Russian diplomat also reported that on Thursday evening a group of experts from the Japanese Foreign Ministry which was conducting preparation for the official visit of the Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Japan scheduled for October 12, is to head for Tokyo. "We have managed to coordinate the greater number of documents to be signed during the Russian-Japanese summit (more than 15 in number) and others are to be developed by diplomatic channels," he said.

He made it clear that "nobody can precisely say" what number of documents would be signed in Tokyo. "It depends upon further progress in our work and whether we shall manage to complete it before the visit," said the diplomat.

'Growing Number' of Cubans Seek Political Asylum

PY3009192293 Moscow Radio Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 28 Sep 93

[Text] One thing that catches one's eye in the current Latin American situation is the growing number of Cubans who leave the island [words indistinct] to request political asylum in other countries.

In the course of a telephone conversation I had yesterday with our colleagues from Cuba's Radio Rebelde, I was asked to inform their listeners about Russia's political

situation and they promised that today they would explain to radio listeners the reasons for the current exodus of Cubans, but they have not telephoned me. I hope that they will soon honor their word.

I have, however, several dispatches on this issue that unfortunately come from other countries, not from Cuba. The leader of the group Cuban Change, (Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo), is of the opinion that Cubans should leave behind the hatred and divisions that have divided them since Fidel Castro took power so as to put the country on its feet again and reinstate individuals' rights and freedoms through a peaceful process.

(Gutierrez Menoyo), who was a military commander during the revolution against Fulgencio Batista and a political prisoner for 25 years under Castro's regime, acknowledged that Cuba is facing a situation of failure in the political and social fields, adding that, therefore, the possibilities of a peaceful transition to a government with Castro are good. Cuba has taken the first steps toward establishing a market economy, the Cuban exile—who was taken into custody for instigating a rebellion against Castro—told the Puerto Rican newspaper EL NUEVO DIA. He added that Castro had no other possibility than implementing several limited reforms, such as allowing the use of foreign currencies and allowing Cubans to leave or enter the country unhampered. (Gutierrez Menoyo) contends that such reforms will first lead to economic independence, and as a result of that, to political independence. He further stated that sooner or later, Castro will have to allow an opposition in the country. (Gutierrez Menoyo) resides in Miami and one of his daughters lives in Puerto Rico. At the beginning of this year, he established Cuban Change, which advocates a peaceful negotiation with the Cuban regime.

He also told the newspaper that the U.S. trade embargo against Cuba could be used in negotiations as a bargaining chip to persuade the Cuban Government to implement additional reforms in order to eliminate the [word indistinct] embargo that Castro imposed on Cubans' rights and freedoms.

Rafael Mayola, spokesman for the Cuban Committee for Human Rights, reported that the Cuban couple who left the country on a raft on 23 September was rescued yesterday by the oil tanker (Lyon) and handed over to a U.S. Immigration Service border patrol in (Aguaviya). The couple, (Livesia Alfonso Espina Osobre), 26 and (Sergio Borrel Valdez), 25 lived in Havana but left their country through Baracoa, on Cuba's east coast.

The Cuban Air Force captain who deserted and landed at the U.S. base in Guantanamo, said a few days before that the Cuban Government warned the military over the [word indistinct] possibility of getting involved with civilians in the case of a not too clear [word indistinct] in the island. Captain (Leonides de los Santos Basulto.), 32, asked for political asylum in the United States after landing a MiG-23 at the Guantanamo military base, in Cuban territory, on 23 September.

(Basulto) said today—at his first news conference after deserting—that he decided to leave Cuba after receiving instructions from General Staff Chief General Ulises Rosales del Toro contained in a [word indistinct] tape that was sent to all bases around the middle of the month. (Basulto) said that in the tape, the commander warned about the presence of anti-Communist forces who want to rise up against the government and kill its leaders as well as military officers and their families. The captain said that the message annoyed many officers. He said that officers were also disgusted by the growing [word indistinct] of the Cuban Government which permits civilians, but not the military, to use dollars. The captain said that the military are not permitted other wishes either, like receiving packages from abroad, or trading goods.

Another captain, (Leo Rabelo Rodriguez), deserted six days before (Basulto) decided to fly to Guantanamo. Rodriguez landed his MiG-21 at the Key West naval base.

President Yeltsin Signs Economic Decrees

Confirms Road Budget Funds

LD0110044693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1413 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Moscow, September 30 (ITAR-TASS)—President Boris Yeltsin approved the 1993 Russian federal budget for transportation funds today for the sum of 429,500 million rubles. The fund's total revenue from taxes and other sources comes to the sum of 440,000 million rubles.

This decree was signed in the context of the constitutional reforms to ensure financing for the maintanance and development of the network of public highways.

This information was released to the press by the president's press office today.

Decree on Credit To Cover Deficit

LD0110115093 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] ITAR-TASS correspondents report that Russian President Boris Yeltsin today signed a decree giving the Council of Ministers—the government of the Russian Federation—a credit to cover the budget deficit in the third quarter of 1993. The decree has been issued in view of the halt in legislative, administrative, and control functions of the Russian Supreme Soviet and in view of the emergency situation concerning budget expenditure in the course of the year's final quarter.

The Russian leader's press service notes that the decree is to be examined by the Federal Assembly.

Decree on Increasing Social Allowances

LD3009122393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1111 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS—The presidential press service reported today that the president of the Russian Federation had signed a decree to increase social allowances and compensations to families with many children and other sections of the population in order to back them up in light of growing prices. The document says that the sizes of allowances and social payments, fixed by Paragraph I of presidential Decree No. 466 of April 20, 1993, will be increased by 81 per cent. The Russian government was given one week to find sources for financing the additional spendings.

Pay Raise for Representative Bodies' Workers

LD3009110993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1025 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS—President Yeltsin has signed a decree to raise by 80 per cent the wages of workers of representative bodies of subjects of the Russian Federation, officials of local self-government organs, courts and procurators offices, as of September 1, 1993, the presidential press service reports.

Central Bank Refutes Criticism on Exchange Stability

PM2909125793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 28 Sep 93 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Central Bank of Russia Controls Currency Rate"]

[Text] In connection with the sharp rise in the dollar rate on the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange, "sensational" articles accusing the Central Bank of Russia [CBR] almost of sabotaging the government's efforts in the sphere of financial stabilization have appeared in the press in addition to serious analysis by specialists. One such article appeared in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA under the striking headline "Gerashchenko Deals a Blow." It links the fall in the ruble rate on the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange to the ending of currency interventions by the Bank of Russia. In this connection the CBR Press Service has forwarded to the ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI editorial office a statement reporting that the CBR not only did not end interventions 22-24 September but even increased them significantly compared with those that preceded publication of the Russian Federation president's Edict No. 1400. In particular, they amounted to 65 percent of the total amount of currency sold on 22 September, 76 percent on 23 September, and 73 percent on 24 September. Thanks to this, on 24 September a further rise in the dollar rate was stopped. What is more, it fell by two rubles. All this indicates that the CBR did not let control of the currency rate slip through its fingers. In this connection the CBR believes that the newspaper's statement is totally groundless and can only increase speculation on the exchange and lead to an intensification of negative processes in the Russian economy.

Price Increase Rate of Energy Resources Slows

PM3009115993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Svetlana Ulanova of the Russian Government's Center for Economic Conditions: "Energy Resource Price Growth Slows"]

[Text] Following a sizable (40-percent) rise in the price of the main types of energy resources in August—brought about by a sharp increase in the cost of raw materials and electricity—there has been a certain slowing in the rate of price changes since early September. Prices of energy resources rose by 15 percent on average in the Russian Federation. This was the result of the continued increase in electricity tariffs (by 50 percent). The biggest increase

was recorded this August (66 percent), but growth rates in electricity tariffs in the first two weeks of September (50 percent) were higher than in the first half of August (44 percent).

On the whole, the cost of the main types of energy resources has increased by 520 percent since the start of the year. This includes a 390-percent increase for raw material energy resources, a 360-percent increase for oil products, and a 1,210-percent increase in electricity tariffs.

Following the rapid surge in prices of raw material energy resources in July-August, there has been a sharp slowing in their price growth in the first half of September. In the first two weeks of September oil increased in price by 4.2 percent, and coal and gas by 1 percent.

At the same time, against the backdrop of a certain stabilization in prices for raw material energy resources in Russia as a whole, sizable price growth for certain types of energy resources has continued in certain parts of the country. Thus, prices for crude oil doubled in the Republic of Bashkortostan and increased by 50 percent in Tomsk Oblast and 20 percent in the Republic of Tatarstan; natural gas was up 330 percent in the Republic of Bashkortostan and 40 percent in Stavropol Kray and Volgograd Oblast; and coal was up 40 percent in Novosibirsk Oblast, 70 percent in the Karachayevo-Cherkess Republic, and 20 percent in the Republic of Khakasia.

Since the start of the year producer enterprises' average prices have risen 960 percent for coal, 640 percent for gas, and 330 percent for oil.

In the first half of September price growth for oil refining industry products (6 percent) exceeded price growth for raw material energy resources (4 percent). The largest price rises were for motor oil (14 percent), lamp kerosene and gasoline (10 percent), and diesel fuel (7 percent). There has been virtually no change in the price of technical kerosene, fuel oil, or winter diesel fuel.

Prices for oil refining industry products are up 360 percent on the start of the year. The largest increases have been for lubricants (570 percent), diesel fuel (450 percent), and gasoline (360 percent).

Producer enterprises' average prices for gasoline (16 percent) have tended to grow faster than retail gasoline prices (4 percent). The average retail price level for gasoline in Russia was 124 rubles [R] a liter—which is 40 percent higher than producer enterprises' average prices (R86).

Program To Provide Homes, Jobs for Discharged Servicemen

MK3009141293 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 59, 30 Sep 93 (signed to press 29 Sep) p 14

[Unattributed report: "'Moscow-Petersburg' Program: Questions of Financing Being Solved"]

[Text] On 1 October, the first session of the coordinating committee of the "Moscow-Petersburg" program is to take place. It is designed to provide housing and jobs over the next 15-20 years for servicemen being discharged into the reserves due to cuts in the armed forces in Leningrad, Moscow, Novgorod, Pskov, and Tver Oblasts. The Russian Federation Government approved the program's concept last week. The program will be implemented by the "Moscow- Petersburg" joint-stock company, among whose founders are the State Committee for the Management of State Property of Russia, the city halls of Moscow and St. Petersburg, the Center for the Conversion of the Aerospace Complex, Defense Ministry enterprises, and the Moscow- Petersburg Motorway Administration. The joint-stock company's charter capital is 150 million rubles. The council's session is to look into proposals for investments into the program's priority projects. The major projects include a high-speed expressway complete with infrastructure between Moscow, Petersburg, Vyborg, and the border. The feasibility study for its first stage is to be completed before the year's end, according to Igor Kotov, first deputy chairman of the council. Two sections—between Moscow and Petersburg, and between the border and Petersburg—are supposed to be completed on the basis of a tender contract before 1997.

'Ka-50' Tipped To Become Army's Main Helicopter

MK3009140593 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 59, 30 Sep 93 (signed to press 29 Sep) p 9

[Unattributed report: "Russian Army May Be Equipped With the 'Ka-50'"]

[Text] It has remained unclear until very recently which helicopter of the rival firms—the OKB [Unified Design Office] Kamov or Mil—was going to be the Russian Army's main combat helicopter. These two firms offer the military the "Ka-50" and "Mi- 28" helicopters, respectively. Until now, preparations have been in progress to mass produce both these machines.

The situation may soon change, however. According to what POSTFACTUM correspondents observed, Andrey Kokoshin, first deputy defense minister of the Russian Federation, and Air Force Commander in Chief Colonel General Petr Deynekin, who visited the exposition of the International Aerospace Salon in Zhukovskiy and were accompanied by OKB Kamov General Designer Viktor Mikheyev, examined the "Ka-50" helicopter and paid no attention to the Mil Design Office's aircraft.

This gives grounds to suppose that the Air Force and the Russian Defense Ministry are preparing to make, or have already made, a decision in favor of adopting the Kamov combat helicopter. In this case, mass production will be undertaken by the Arseniyev aviation-industrial association.

Profile of New First Deputy Chief of Staff Zhurbenko

PM3009131193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Sep 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Lieutenant General Vladimir Mikhaylovich Zhurbenko"]

[Text] By Edict No. 1,448 of the Russian Federation president of 24 September 1993 Lieutenant General Vladimir Zhurbenko has been appointed first deputy chief of the General Staff of the Russian Federation Armed Forces.

He was born 30 September 1939 in the city of Borisovo, Minsk Oblast, and is a Russian. In 1962 he graduated from the Omsk Higher Combined Arms Command School named for M.V. Frunze.

In 1971 he graduated from the M.V. Frunze Military Academy.

In 1972 he became deputy chief of a division operations section in the Turkestan Military District. And in 1973 chief of staff and deputy regiment commander. In 1974 he became chief of an operations section and deputy division chief of staff. In 1975 he commanded a regiment, and in 1977 he was chief of staff and deputy division commander.

In 1982, after graduating from the General Staff Military Academy of the, he became deputy chief of the operations directorate of the Southern Group of Forces staff. In 1985 he was appointed deputy chief of the operations directorate of the Southwestern Sector staff and in 1987 chief of the operations directorate of the Southwestern Sector staff. In 1989 he was deputy chief of the Main Operations Directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff.

And in July 1992 he became deputy chief of the General Staff of the Russian Federation Armed Forces.

Court Warns Defendant in August Coup Case

LD3009215293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0900 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By CRIME PRESS correspondent Nikolay Semenenko]

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS—The trial of the participants of the August 1991 coup d'etat was resumed here today. The military collegium of the Russian Supreme Court officially warned defendant Vasiliy Starodubtsev against deliberate attempts to drag out the hearings. The point is that the court was adjourned last week at Starodubtsev's request, who feigned himself to be sick and even presented corresponding medical certificates. However, in spite of this, he attended the second congress of the Russian Agrarian Union on Wednesday.

Chairman of the court Anatoliy Ukolov warned Starodubtsev that the interdiction measure, fixed for the defendants (commitment not to leave the city), could be altered to a stricter one if the first interdiction failed to ensure the continuity of the hearings.

The hearings were adjourned until October 5 due to the sickness of Dmitriy Steinberg, Valentin Varennikov's lawyer.

National, Regional Government Activities Reported

PM3009123093 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 29 Sep 93 p 1

[Unattributed "Executive Branch: Monitoring" feature]

[Excerpts] **Meetings, Conferences, Trips**

A meeting was held yesterday between President Boris Yeltsin and famous Russian and world cultural figure Mstislav Rostropovich. The president thanked the celebrated maestro for giving Russian democracy his powerful moral support at a difficult time for the country. During the conversation there was a detailed discussion of the problems involved in extricating Russian culture from its current crisis.

Russian government head Viktor Chernomyrdin had his regular Tuesday meeting with President Boris Yeltsin. There was an exchange of opinions on a wide range of questions, in particular the economic situation in the country, the operational situation, and other current matters.

In the afternoon the premier held a session of the Commission on Operational Questions, which was attended by all Cabinet members.

Vice Premier Yegor Gaydar held a conference on the liberalization of foreign economic activity, and then the first vice premier, together with his colleagues, attended the session of the Commission on Operational Questions. In the afternoon Yegor Gaydar attended a conference on state property management.

First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets had a meeing with the French ambassador and then attended the session of the Commission on Operational Questions.

First Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko held a conference with CIS countries' youth affairs ministers, at which the key question was youth's place and role in the new economic conditions of society's development.

Vice Premiers Boris Fedorov and Aleksandr Shokhin are in Washington, where they are attending a session of the IMF Board of Governors.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha met with the German ambassador and then held a meeting on harvest matters.

Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays is in Sweden on official business.

Vice Premier Yuriy Yarov attended sessions of two commissions—the Commission on the Operational Situation and the Commission on Questions of Transferring Supreme Soviet Organizations and Buildings to Council of Ministers-Government Control. [passage omitted]

Regions

Kemerovo Oblast Soviet Chairman Aman Tuleyev's intention to seek the proclamation of a Siberian Republic via organs of the "Siberian Accord" association contradicts the principles of the unity of the Russian state and will lead to the disruption of normal interaction between the center and the regions, Kuzbass governor Mikhail Kislyuk said. So A. Tuleyev's statement can only be regarded as the opinion of a private individual.

The intensive development of relations with the states of the Asia-Pacific region is accompanied by a sharp increase in the number of foreigners traveling to Khabarovsk Kray, many of whom are violating Russian legislation. A special decree signed by Khabarovsk Kray administration chief Viktor Ishayev envisages a stricter approach to the issuing of visas and to verifying the authenticity of the documents of citizens of China and other foreign states traveling to the kray. A memorandum is being drawn up on the basic rights and duties of foreigners staying on the territory of Amur Oblast.

Central Electoral Commission In Operation

In order to implement the edict of the Russian Federation president "On Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform in the Russian Federation" and the Russian Federation government decree "On Succession to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet's Powers Vis-a-Vis the Media," the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government has issued a directive giving the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law the task of providing legal, methodological, and information backup for the activities of the Central Electoral Commission on the Elections to the Federal Assembly State Duma.

The editorial board of the journal NARODNYY DEPUTAT and the Izvestiya Sovetov Narodnykh Deputatov RF publishing house will publish a weekly entitled BYULLETEN TSENTRALNOY IZBIRATELNOY KOMISSII [Central Election Commission Bulletin]. The Russian Press and Information Ministry will help them publish the bulletin and other printed matter.

'Eintracht' Society Leader Denies Rumors of 'Germanization'

WS3009094393 Kaliningrad KALININGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 Sep 93 p 1

[Interview with V. Hoffmann, chairman of "Eintracht," the social and cultural society of Russian Germans, by L. Yashin; place and date not given; under the "Pressing Interview" rubric: "Concerns of Russian Germans Are Inseparable From Russia's Interests"]

[Excerpts] [Yashin] **Viktor Yakovlevich, your society is called "Eintracht"—unity. Whose unity? Unity with whom? Different stories are circulating about "Eintracht," and even such incredible rumors that your goal is the "Germanization" of Kaliningrad Oblast and its tearing away from Russia....**

[Hoffmann] Rumors most often stem from a lack of information. That is why I am grateful to your newspaper for granting an opportunity to fill this gap. I would interpret the concept of "eintracht" in little broader fashion. It means both unity, accord, and a readiness for cooperation. Therefore, our political motto is to care for the problems of our homeland—Russia—and live in peace and accord with all nations inhabiting it. The goal of the "Eintracht" society is to unite the efforts of Kaliningrad inhabitants—the Russian Germans and people born here who appreciate this land's history and culture—for the social, economic, and spiritual revival of Russia's most western area. Regarding the ineffective speculations about "Germanization" and "tearing," I think that it is clear from where this political wind is blowing, raised by the local nationalists and patriots who are far from pursuing peaceful goals. Although "Eintracht" is beyond politics, I cannot help saying this. [passage omitted]

Regardless of the former Soviet Union republic in which they were born, all Germans believe themselves to be Russian Germans. [passage omitted]

Kaliningrad saw its first ethnic and cultural society, that is, "Eintracht" emerge four years ago. Last May, our society acquired an oblast status with branches in the Svetliy, Polesskiy, Gusevskiy, Ozerskiy, and Zelenogradskiy regions, and it currently has a membership of about 500 people.

[Yashin] **Are they all Russian Germans?**

[Hoffmann] Not at all. One-third of the society's members are Russians, Belarusians, and representatives of other nationalities who are interested in our history, cultural heritage, and people who spread wisdom and good—the eternal values on this soil.

First of all, we would like to preserve elements of our culture. The culture of Russian Germans is a unique layer of European culture. [passage omitted]

Like other social organizations, we experience considerable financial difficulties. The talks about the alleged

large German subsidies we receive have the same hidden political motive I have already mentioned, and they are groundless. You might wonder about the source of our money. "Eintracht" has acted as a founder of some enterprises that render material support for our cultural and social programs. For example, I head the firm "Eintracht-Ost" that engages in production and commerce. We are creating an agrarian infrastructure in the Pravdinsk region, organizing the production of building materials, and supporting 45 farms with one-third of Russian Germans among them. [passage omitted]

[Yashin] **Apart from "Eintracht," there are some more social societies of Russian Germans in Kaliningrad—the German friendly association "Tilsit" in Sovetsk, the "Working Samaritans" in Ladushkin and others. All of them work independently. Is this not similar to the "parade of sovereignties" [reference to declarations of independence by former USSR republics]?**

[Hoffmann] Recently, a meeting of representatives of all social organizations was held in the German-Russian House. The meeting mentioned the division, the lack of information, and even the confrontation among the organizations of Russian Germans that reduce the efficiency of joint work to a minimum. The participants voiced their readiness for the consolidation of their efforts and for constructive cooperation. In other words, they decided to unite by forming something like the "CIS." There is much hope for closer cooperation under the roof of the German-Russian House because our disagreements are not as serious in principle as those in Moscow where conflicts ended in a complete rift.

[Yashin] **The central mass media sometimes feature projects of a Baltic Republic of Russian Germans or a German autonomy on the territory of Kaliningrad Oblast. What do you think of such ideas?**

[Hoffmann] What is the number of Russian Germans? Statistics quote the figure of 2 million. However, this is not quite true. If we consider German families (and most of them are mixed), we will have to at least double that number. This formal feature alone makes the idea of autonomy on the oblast territory unrealistic. Russian Germans account for only about 1 percent of the local inhabitants. There is another more fundamental argument against this idea—we must not disrupt this more or less harmonious balance of national interests among the population. This is one of the regions of the former Union that managed to escape open manifestations of nationalism and chauvinism. If some Russian Germans wish to settle in our oblast, they are welcome, but only on common grounds that exist for all Russian citizens, and with no privileges.

[Yashin] **What are your society's relations with the oblast authorities?**

[Hoffmann] They are good without any exaggeration. We seldom resort to state subsidies. [passage omitted] We want the Oblast Administration and the Oblast Council to tackle our problems together with those of all people's residing in this area. After political storms and emotions abate, everyone will understand that the Russian Germans are a useful fund that must be fully exploited in the interest of the oblast's social, economic, and cultural revival.

Raduga Communications Spacecraft Launched From Baykonur

LD3009183793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1816 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS stringer Semen Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 30 Sep—A "Proton" heavy rocket (RN) carrying a "Raduga" communications spacecraft was launched from the Baykonur cosmodrome launchpad (Pad 81) by the Russian Military Space Forces (VKS) at 2006 Moscow time [1706 GMT] today. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told at the VKS press center that the satellite is being guided from the KA [space agency] main testing and guidance center (GTsIU) (Golitsino-2), which is a structural part of the VKS.

This launch was the 210th since 16 July 1965, when this type of rocket was launched for the first time.

Plans To Restart Court Hearings Against Moscow Newspaper

LD0110040293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1236 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Ivanova]

[Text] Moscow, September 30 (TASS)—The Russian Press and Information Ministry intends to restart court hearings against the DEN newspaper for its violations of the mass media law. ITAR-TASS learnt at the the ministry that the newspaper violated terms of an amicable settlement concluded at the Moscow city court early in September.

Under the settlement, the ministry abandoned a civil action against the newspaper, while DEN undertook to avoid new violations of Article 4 of the Mass Media Law.

Regional Affairs

Black Sea Fleet To Receive Aid From Local Soviets

OW3009235393 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 21 Sep 93

[V. Foshenko video report; from the "Utro" program]

[Text] [Foshenko] What you see is the bird's eye view of Sevastopol, the beautiful city of naval sailors. [video shows aerial shots of Sevastopol] Since olden times, the fate of this city has been connected to the fate of the Black Sea Fleet, which has been unclear for the last two

years. There is still no answer as to whether it will be assigned to Ukraine or Russia, be divided or remain unified. [video shows aerial shots of battle ships at wharf] The Black Sea Fleet incorporates not only warships but also aircraft. It is a technically complex structure which demands constant attention and, unfortunately, this is something that is missing today. The fleet and air force received no spare parts for their equipment for two years now. Some types of airplanes cannot even take off due to a fuel undersupply. Officers remain Russian servicemen but their pay comes in Ukrainian coupons and when translated into rubles, is much lower than that of their colleagues here in Russia. [video shows aerial shots of helicopters on airfield] Getting Russian money when going on leave is an unimaginable problem. There are also problems with the supply of provisions and necessary goods. This is why residents of the five oblasts of the Central Black Earth Region became interested and concerned about the fate of the Black Sea sailors, of the air force and fleet. [video shows high ranking officers, civilians at meeting] Many of them remember and know that pilots of the air army based today in Crimea as a part of the fleet air force fought together in the skies of Kurskaya Duga in 1943. But not one of them has or had any intention of dividing their fighter planes into Russian, Ukrainian, or Georgian units. Officers of 24 nationalities want one thing: a single and indivisible fleet. This was the topic discussed at a meeting between chairmen of Voronezh, Lipetsk, Kursk, Tambov, and Belgorod Oblast Soviets of People's Deputies. The meeting also decided to assist the air force with spare parts, provisions to the officers' families, education for their children, and much more. [video cuts to show interview with Lieutenant General N.N. Fadeyev, commander of the Black Sea Fleet air forces]

[Begin recording] [Fadeyev] I am very pleased that all the leaders have met with the military personnel, understood our needs and requests, grasped the essence of combat readiness of our units and what we live for, and saw the military personnel's social conditions. I think that the plans that we have adopted for all the garrisons ... [changes thought] the adopted plan for our agreements will contribute to everyone. The Black Sea Fleet must be unified, and it must carry out its duty in protecting the southern borders for the sake of both Ukraine and Russia. [video shows interview with I.M. Shabanov, chairman of Voronezh Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, who is standing next to Fadeyev]

[Shabanov] There is a lot of talk today about enhancing the role of krays and oblasts as federation members. Since we are seriously talking about it, and since federation members, the krays and oblasts, will announce their presence as they should, then this state matter cannot proceed without us. Therefore, we believe that the mutual initiative of the Black Sea Fleet command or, to be precise, of the command of the Black Sea Fleet air force and Central Black Earth Region oblasts should be supported by all Russian oblasts and krays. The main point is: If we save the Black Sea Fleet, it will protect its country, its people, and its Motherland and Fatherland. This is the main point. [end recording]

Tatarstan Still Wants 'Treaty' Ties With Moscow

PM3009120193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 93 First Edition p 1

[Boris Bronshteyn report: "Tatarstan Maintains Its Observer Stance Irrespective of Political Circumstances"]

[Text] Tartarstan will continue to advocate treaty-constitutional relations with the Russian Federation.

A statement to this effect was made in an interview with a local TV company by republic Vice President Vasiliy Likhachev. Speaking about the Russian power crisis, he declined to give assessments of the actions of Yeltsin or parliament.

Sverdlovsk Oblast Continues Moves Toward Ural Republic

PM0110093993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Sep 93 p 1

[Report by Leonid Pozdeyev report: "'Parade' of Sovereignties May Be Russia's 'Last Parade'"]

[Text] Yekaterinburg—People in Yekaterinburg first began talking of their intention of proclaiming the Ural Republic within the Russian Federation on Sverdlovsk Oblast territory this May. As you know, Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin described these actions as "premature."

Sverdlovsk Oblast Administration Head Eduard Rossel held an emergency meeting with members of the oblast government 22 September 1993 (the day after the Russian president's edict on phased constitutional reform was promulgated). The Sverdlovsk governor stressed that it is now very important to maintain tranquillity and order, work as normal, and concentrate on tackling three top-priority tasks facing the oblast—bringing in the harvest, starting up the heating system, and preparing for the oblast soviet session on the question of creating the Ural Republic. A meeting of leaders of Sverdlovsk Oblast cities and rayons was held in Pervouralsk 23 September and discussed the problems of forming the Ural Republic. As we can see, it is not a question of whether or not to create the republic. An extraordinary oblast soviet session began work 29 September; it is to discuss the prevailing political situation in connection with the well-known events in Moscow and settle a number of other matters, including examining the draft constitution of the Ural Republic within the Russian Federation.

Observers think that the self-proclamation of the Ural Republic is a serious "indication" of growing trends toward self-determination in not only republic but also administrative formations in Russia.

St Petersburg To Temporarily Halt Bread Price Hike

LD0110000693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1127 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent lev rumyantsev]

[Text] St. Petersburg September 30 TASS—St. Petersburg citizens will receive a two-week breather before a gasp to be caused by a sharp price hike for bread from October 1. Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak issued an instruction on temporary maintenance of bread prices, under which the bread price will remain intact between October 1 and 15.

Flour mills will receive 350 million roubles from the municipal budget to set off their expenses over this period.

Transbaykal Enrichment Plant at Standstill

LD2909153193 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0600 GMT 29 Sep 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Transbaykal mining and enrichment combine is the only place in Russia where concentrates containing lithium, beryllium, tantalum, and other rare earth elements are produced. Today this gigantic ore-mining plant is at a standstill. The reason is very simple. The factories which used to produce pure metal from these concentrates now find themselves in newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union. Since the combine has already supplied them with enough ore to keep them going for many years ahead, they simply do not need their Transbaykal partner any more.

Earlier this year, in mid-March, the Economics Ministry decided to allocate the miners 2.2 billion rubles as funding for Russia's federal program for the production of lithium, tantalum, and beryllium. The program has been drawn up. The combine is ready to start work on the production of precious metals for the state reserves. But the finance line has still not been opened.

The enterprise is now living a hand-to-mouth existence by manufacturing plastic consumer goods and hiring out its Belaz trucks. Hopes of raising the prestige of an elite industry, which used to be extremely rich, are becoming increasingly illusory.

International Affairs

Defense Ministry Issues Statement on Clashes in Fleet

AU3009130693 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 25 Sep 93 pp 1, 4

[Text] The Press Service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense has disseminated a statement in connection with the statement by the Press Service of the Black Sea Fleet as carried by some of the mass media. The latter statement deals with the incident that occurred between a subunit of Ukraine's marines and Black Sea Fleet ground troops. "According to the Black Sea Fleet Press Service, the marines twice attacked a tank regiment of the ground troops division, and on 18 September 1993, they beat up three Black Sea Fleet servicemen with shovels and clubs. Hinting at an involvement in these 'provocations' of the headquarters of Ukraine's Armed Forces, the Command of the Black Sea Fleet places the entire responsibility for possible consequences upon Ukraine's Ministry of Defense," reads the statement by the Press Service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense.

The statement points out that, "on 18 September 1993, there was a case of an unauthorized dispute between servicemen of the Black Sea Fleet and Ukraine's Naval Forces. Two marines who were delivering food to the field headquarters of the company were beaten up by soldiers of a ground troops unit of the Black Sea Fleet. On the same day, another serviceman of Ukraine's Naval Forces was beaten up. The garrison's Military Procurator's Office instituted a criminal case in connection with the incident." The statement by the Press Service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense stresses that the carrying over of unauthorized disputes between Black Sea sailors to the political sphere does not contribute to a stabilization of the situation that has taken shape as a result of the delay in resolving the Black Sea Fleet problem. At the same time, the statement expresses apprehension over the fact that, lately, servicemen of the Black Sea Fleet have committed a number of acts of hooliganism against servicemen of Ukraine's Armed Forces: They demand that Ukrainian sailors denounce Ukraine's state symbols, mock their loyalty to Ukraine's Armed Forces, and so on. As pointed out in the statement, as far back as on 11 September 1993, Ukraine's minister of defense turned to the Black Sea Fleet commander with a letter in which he expressed a hope that the latter, as an official figure, would find a way to influence the situation. So far, no answer from Admiral E. Baltin has been received.

"Ukraine's Ministry of Defense has always been in favor of civilized ways of resolving problems that exist in the Black Sea Fleet and in favor of the unconditional adherence to the requirements of the current legislation and has never encouraged the troops under its jurisdiction to commit provocative actions." "Ukraine's Ministry of Defense is approaching the command of the Black Sea Fleet with a proposal to intensify joint work to ensure order and discipline within the troops and to maintain self-control and balance in the course of further resolution of the Black Sea Fleet problem," stresses the statement.

Russia Raises Black Sea Fleet Salaries

LD3009222893 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2130 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] Sevastopol, 28 Sep—A telegram has been sent to the Black Sea Fleet from Russia's minister of defense along with an instruction on raising salaries for the financial upkeep of military personnel. In accordance with the instruction of 1 September, salaries for military rank and salaries of the posts are being increased 1.8 times. In connection with this, a telegram from Eduard Baltin, commander of the Black Sea Fleet, has been sent to all directorates of the service and all military units concerning the acceptance of the said documents on the Black Sea Fleet. Moreover, the size of the quoted difference between the karbovanets and the ruble during the payment of the financial maintenance for military personnel has been increased to a factor of 3.2. Thus Russia continues to control the Black Sea Fleet without waiting for the problem to be resolved.

National Affairs

Kravchuk Cited on Assuming Control of Cabinet

WS3009143193 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1100 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Report on interview with Ukrainian President Kravchuk by Vitaliy Naumenko; place and date not given]

[Text] The Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers today held its first meeting under President Kravchuk since his recent decree placing him in charge of the government. There are many opinions as to whether or not this was a good move. This is what Kravchuk himself thinks. He said that ambiguity concerning the presidential representatives in the oblasts has disappeared. Now they are subordinated to the Cabinet of Ministers. As for the documents that were left unfinished by the representatives, President Kravchuk said that all presidential decrees and edicts will be discussed at the Cabinet of Ministers—the president will sign them after an examination by the judicial service. [passage indistinct] He also emphasized the following point: I do not lead the government, I just assumed leadership over it. I appointed, said Leonid Makarovych, only those ministers that fall under my control. As for the ministers falling under the control of the Supreme Council, let it take care of them.

The most important part of the interview certainly concerned economic reform. Ukraine's course toward strategic and economic reform will be maintained, thus guaranteeing the continuation of previous changes. Here is the most essential statement made by the president:

[Begin Kravchuk recording] One should put in order the situation in the state enterprises, trade, and energy sources. For example, our energy sources now sell for three times world prices. Today, I asked who in our country, specifically, trades in gasoline or diesel fuel. Basic order and discipline in our country are priority tasks in our work.

We agreed that regional policy is a pressing issue. Its examination will be carried out along with that of a draft constitution and other legislative acts. Still, issues that can be resolved based on present laws should be handled decisively and consistently with everyone doing their share, including the president, acting prime minister, vice prime ministers, ministers, and presidential representatives. Order must be preserved, anyway. The Cabinet of Ministers will now start operating in extraordinary mode, but not in the sense that it will seek extraordinary powers. This means greater responsibility for the decisions made, as well as their implementation.

In March or April, a new government will be formed. I am not saying that the people with whom we have worked until now are not qualified. Each of them knows what to do, is aware of the problems, and understands their roots. But there should be teamwork, discipline, and responsibility on the part of anyone who works for the state. [end recording]

Kravchuk Reportedly Plans To Dissolve Parliament

LD0110043993 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1336 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] As it became known to a UNIAN correspondent on 30 September from sources close to the Supreme Council, the president of Ukraine does not rule out the possibility of partially repeating the actions of the Russian president if, in the course of the next two months, the Supreme Council does not adopt a law on elections. In this situation Leonid Kravchuk plans to dissolve the Supreme Council and convene a constitutional council composed of representatives of political forces, regions, and others. This council will adopt documents according to which the elections will take place on 27 March.

Edict Creates Coordination Committee for Market Reforms

AU3009143493 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 29 Sep 93 p 2

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has signed the Edict on the Coordination Committee for Questions of Implementing Market Reforms and Overcoming the Economic Crisis. The edict reads as follows:

In order to coordinate actions of central and local organs of state executive power, Ukrainian banks and enterprises, and organs of local and regional self-government and to pool their efforts for the implementing of market reforms and overcoming the economic crisis, the Coordination Committee for Questions of Implementing Market Reforms and Overcoming the Economic Crisis has been created. It is headed by the Ukrainian president. The composition of the Coordination Committee has also been approved.

Composition of the Coordination Committee for Questions of Implementing Market Reforms and Overcoming the Economic Crisis

PLYUSHCH, Ivan Stepanovych—chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council;

ZVYAHILSKYY, Yukhym Leonidovych—Ukraine's acting prime minister;

YUSHCHENKO, Viktor Andriyovych—chairman of the board of Ukraine's National Bank;

BABYCH, Valeriy Heorhiyovych—president of the All-Ukrainian Association of Entrepreneurs;

HEYETS, Valeriy Mykhaylovych—head of department at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences Economic Inch—Ukraine's minister of finaste;

SHPEK, Roman Vasylyovych—Ukraine's minister of the economy.

New External Economic Relations Minister Appointed

LD0110001493 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1319 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Kiev, 30 September—The press service of the Ukrainian president reports that the president has appointed Oleh Slepichev as Ukrainian external economic relations minister. The Ukrainian president has issued a decree setting up a Chief Trade Directorate within the central apparatus of the External Economic Relations Ministry.

MP Terms New Appointments as Failure To Begin Reform

LD0110054993 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1319 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Kiev, 30 Sep—The chairman of the People's Council [parliamentary faction], Ivan Zayets, has commented on new appointments by Leonid Kravchuk, as follows: "These appointments demonstrate that the president did not make use of a possibility to start reforms. They show that the crisis of power was to a considerable extent determined by conflicts between the state's leading figures. Kravchuk should have abolished the Presidium of the Cabinet of Ministers and raised the actual status of the ministers who are under pressure from the presidium. He also should have changed the structure of the government to make its activity more effective. I am sure, Ivan Zayets pointed out, that the establishment of administrative and command methods

of government will continue and that the president will continue to rely on the red directorship."

Ex-Prime Minister Criticizes Government

LD3009222993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0954 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yefim Shvartsman]

[Text] Kiev September 30 TASS—"The disruption of economic ties with the former Soviet republics to suit political decisions is largely responsible for the present crisis in Ukraine," Ukrainian ex-prime minister Vladimir Lanovoy claimed in an interview with the first channel of the Ukrainian state-owned TV network on Wednesday evening.

Lanovoy, the well-known economist who was ousted by president Leonid Kravchuk from the Fokin government in the summer of 1992 and who now heads a market research centre, noted that Ukraine now has virtually nothing apart from its sovereignty.

Moreover, the republic "has no clear idea about the mechanism of joining the economic union which is now being established". In Lanovoy's opinion, the present situation can be largely attributed to the fact that the Ukrainian leaders have not developed, over a lengthy period, a clear-cut doctrine for its foreign economic, political and military relations with the outside world.

Lanovoy claimed that Ukraine was now pursuing a passive policy, and Kravchuk's position was often ambiguous and inconsistent.

Procurator General on Prospects for Law-Governed State

LD0110001093 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0754 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Lvov—At a ...ceting with Lvov residents on 28 September, Ukrainian Procurator General Viktor Shyshkin set forth his views on the prospects of creating a law-governed state in Ukraine. In the opinion of the procurator general, [words indistinct] being hampered by the imperfection of the legislative foundation, passiveness, and inconsistency in actions by parliament. Viktor Shyshkin's view is that the crisis Ukraine has found itself in is conditioned in many respects by most parties' and political groups' weak sentiments toward statehood. Answering numerous questions on the Crimean Parliament's anti-Ukrainian policies, the procurator general pointed out that the Office of the Procurator General's bodies were unable to prosecute those guilty of offenses due to the lack of the necessary legislative enactments.

Senior Rukh Member on Restructuring State Power System

WS0110091793 Kiev KHRESHCHATYK in Ukrainian 24 Sep 93 p 1

[Article by Rukh Deputy Chairman Oleksandr Lavrynovych: "What Should Power in Ukraine Be Like?"]

[Text] The question of power has always been crucial and underlying in the history of any state. For all the talk about the importance of economic problems, they cannot be resolved without efficient power. One does not have to go too far to prove that. It would be enough to recall how long the issues of socioeconomic development and social protection were debated by the Ukrainian Supreme Council. And what were the results?

In all states, power resolves a broad range of problems, including economic ones, even if they concern forms of ownership.

Obviously, everyone can recall the processes of nationalization carried out by power—even if with slight modifications—in different countries and privatization in the post-communist countries, or even in the most developed states, such as Great Britain and Sweden.

So, efficiency and the ability to reach the basic goal of its existence—to ensure a worthy life for citizens—depends upon the structure of power. Subjectivity and dependence on personalities is always part of the problem-solving process. This also applies to the functioning of power. However, a well-designed model of state governing brings a minimum possible number of negative consequences caused by the work of specific individuals. This is clearly visible in the countries of West Europe and North America. The present situation in the state management of Ukraine testifies to the importance and urgency of these problems for our state.

Everyone agrees that Ukraine must become a democratic republic. This means that power will be divided among different branches. Proceeding from the unitarian model, one should immediately make it clear that legislative power can only be wielded by one body, the parliament. Under a federal system (an element of which we virtually have in the example of the Crimea), another level of executive power is possible; one which operates within limits set by the Constitution. In general, the structure of legislative power does not allow for many options and is thoroughly studied in the case of unicameral and bicameral legislature, as well as autonomous republics. In this issue, the way one is elected to a legislative body is becoming more and more crucial. This is a top priority for Ukraine today.

The structure of executive power is more complex and ramified because this branch is to administer the life of citizens in all spheres. Until recently, we have practically had three independent elements of the executive branch. The first element is the executive committees of town

councils subordinated solely to the soviets, the second one is state administrations headed by the president's representative, answerable to the president, and the third one—the network of administrations, committees, and ministries of the government with the prime minister at the helm. Each of those branches had subdivisions with overlapping responsibilities. Today, despite the merger of the last two elements, the problem of a split in the executive branch still remains. This structure is a priori inefficient and nonviable.

The present situation can be put in order by sweeping constitutional reform. However, the futile Supreme Council, primarily preoccupied with dragging out its comfortable existence, is not capable of implementing such reform. It is the legislature that is the main barrier on the road to consolidation of the Ukrainian state. It is obvious that all these elements should be united into one system of state governing. I believe that the structure of executive power headed by a president, who is elected by the entire population, is the most acceptable option for Ukraine. (The alternative of a parliamentarian republic would be less effective in the initial stages of the country's political scene.) This would allow us to build a smooth-functioning and viable system of power. In this case, the president single-handedly forms the Cabinet of Ministers, which would have to subsequently be approved by the legislature; the cabinet, in turn, will govern the state administrations assembled by their heads. The state administration chief would be elected directly by the residents of a relevant administrative unit and, at the same time, have the right to vote in a representative body of the local self-government, which is elected about the same time. Incidentally, this is how this problem was resolved in the United States, Germany, and Hungary. Positive results of this system in different countries speak for themselves. This solution could reduce the number of power structures by eliminating parallel formations, which would profoundly enhance their efficiency. On the one hand, we would ensure vertical subordination, and on the other hand—building strong power in a democratic manner.

Another necessary branch is judicial power. Examples of its successful and independent operation are nowhere to be seen in Ukraine. Democracy is impossible without an effective court. The judicial systems that function well in other countries, especially in the United States, are certainly examples to follow. The fact that the superiority of law is not a declaration in that country should be credited to its legal system.

Without going into details, just as in the case with the executive power, we could have a system with one Supreme Court that has various departments, ranging from constitutional to criminal. The local legal bodies could be built along the same lines. To enhance the protection of citizens' rights, it would be expedient to usher in a network of appeals courts and the institution of the jury to handle criminal cases.

All those problems must be regulated by the Constitution. Given the present situation, however, one should separately solve the issue of the state power structure by passing a relevant legal act and approving an electoral system to form government bodies. This will determine how fast our new state will overcome its deep and pervasive crisis. There is no more important task for Ukraine today than establishing effective state power.

Zlenko on Funding Problems for Nuclear Disarmament

LD0110101693 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 0800 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Speaking at a session of the UN General Assembly, Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko stated:

Ukraine is ready for nuclear disarmament. We have inherited a huge nuclear arsenal from the former Soviet Union, which is third in the world according to combat potential. The Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine declared our state's intention to become nonnuclear in the future. The dismantling of strategic missile complexes has already begun. An agreement with Russia has been signed on utilizing the nuclear warheads of strategic missiles.

However, the full scale implementation of the nuclear disarmament program is connected with the need to resolve a series of problems. In accordance with our assessments, approximately $2.8 billion is essential for these aims. Also arising is the problem of the return to Ukraine of nuclear components and compensation for them, said Zlenko.

State Border Program Endorsed by Government

LD0110000593 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1100 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] A comprehensive program to develop the state border of Ukraine has been endorsed at government level. In preparing it, specialists proceeded from the fundamental guidelines and priorities of our state's foreign policy. Primarily, it makes provision for comprehensive agreements on good-neighborliness to be concluded with all states bordering on Ukraine. It is planned that a number of measures will have been taken by 1998 to equip the border to prevent illegal immigration and other violations of our frontiers.

Nationalist Leader's Home Searched in 'Reprisal'

LD3009180093 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1319 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Kiev, 30 Sep—The press center of the Ukrainian National Assembly has reported that the apartment of Anatoliy Lupynis, a well-known political figure and chairman of the Political Consultative Body of the Ukrainian National Assembly, was searched at 2000 on 29 September, in the absence of its owner. At the invitation of the Georgian Government, Mr. Lupynis is now taking part in

talks in Georgia on a settlement of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. The search was carried out by members of staff of the Minskiy Rayon Internal Affairs Department jointly with the SBU [Security Service of Ukraine] within the framework of a reprisal campaign against Ukrainian national forces and, in particular, the Ukrainian National Self-Defense Organization.

Mr. Lupynis' teenage daughter and her friend were arrested and are now at the Minskiy Rayon Internal Affairs Department. While carrying out the action, law-enforcement employees were rude and threatened Mr. Lupynis with further reprisals.

Crimean Supreme Council Head Holds News Conference

LD3009220893 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2130 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] Simferopol, 29 Sep—At a news conference, Mykola Bahrov, chairman of the Crimean Supreme Council, said that he continues to support the necessity of granting nationality quotas in the Crimean Parliament for Crimean Tatars and representatives of other deported peoples. Mykola Bahrov also considers that it is necessary to resolve the issue connected with the representation of certain civil organizations in the Crimean Supreme Council. At the news conference, he discussed the reasons for his statement of 28 September regarding his resignation from the post of parliamentary chairman.

Mykola Bahrov said that it is not worth regarding this decision as a political game because it came to a head a long time ago. He resigned because for several sittings in succession certain groups of people's deputies had blocked the adoption of any decision which would guarantee the normal development of Crimea. In the opinion of the Crimean Supreme Council chairman, this development should take place in three areas: Crimean statehood should be given real content; the economy should be reformed and the economic situation normalized; and political stability should be supported. Mykola Bahrov said that he remains a supporter of the ethnic representation of the deported peoples in the Crimean Parliament; however, he is prepared to accept options other than nationality quotas as long as representatives of the deported peoples agree with them. He resolutely condemned any actions aimed at destabilizing the political situation.

The Crimean Supreme Council chairman refused to discuss the situation in the Russian Federation which the Crimean parliamentary newspaper KRYMSKIYE IZVESTIYA, on the first page of yesterday's issue, called a state coup carried out by Boris Yeltsin. He refused to comment on this matter because, in his opinion, such a discussion would be interference in Russia's internal affairs.

Asked by a UNIAR correspondent whether the oil terminals which are being built in the villages of Chernomorskoye, Feodosiya, and Kerch will be used, Bahrov said that Turkish President Suleyman Demirel approved a decision on closing the Sea of Marmara and the Dardanelles and Bosporus straits to oil tankers. In his opinion this decision was not dictated by economic considerations alone.

Rukh Backs Tartar Demands for Electoral Law Repeal

WS0110104893 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] The Ukrainian People's Movement completely supports the just demands of the Crimean Tartar people for the revocation of the discriminatory Electoral Law and a review by the Crimean People's Deputies Congress of the entire electoral system. We understand, says a declaration released by the organization, the actions of civil disobedience to which the Crimean Tartar people are forced to resort in their struggle for the natural right to have their own representatives in all government bodies, first and foremost in the Crimean legislature.

Belarus

Presidium Rejects Emergency Session for Parliament

LD3009213793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1616 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet presidium rejected at its Wednesday meeting the proposal made by Parliament Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich that an emergency parliamentary session be called October 12 to discuss three "most urgent" issues:

1. A government report on the economic situation and ways to stabilize it.

2. Adoption, article-wise, of a new Belarusian constitution.

3. Amending election legislation and calling early parliamentary elections with a majority system of voting.

Most presidium members objected to holding an emergency session on the grounds that the harvesting campaign had to be completed and that the session must be prepared for more thoroughly.

The presidium decided to call parliament into session November 9 to discuss nearly 60 issues.

Vice Premier Stanislav Bril promised that the government did its best to provide enough heat in Belarusian homes in the coming winter. (According to Mikhail Kovalyov, who advises Shushkevich on the economy, the country has enough fuel for as few as 40 days - IF [INTERFAX]). Bril also admitted that the hot water temperature might have to be reduced or supplied to houses only during specified hours.

The vice premier said that the recent monetary reform in Russia, when old Soviet rubles were discontinued, was the reason why the preparation for the winter season failed. While the Belarusian government was negotiating with Russia on new arrangements for paying for fuel supplies. Time was wasted and an insufficient amount of fuel was stored.

Bloc of United Democratic Forces Created

WS3009155493 Minsk RID in Russian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Article by RID correspondent Natalia Gusakova: " 'Spring 94' Reinforced and Backed by Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich"]

[Text] On 7 September 1993, a consultative meeting on the creation of the association of the democratic forces "Spring 94" was held.

The association pursues the aim of holding early Supreme Soviet elections not later than in spring 1994, and of forming a coalition government of people's confidence. RID correspondent has learned that the representatives of the Belarusian Peasant Party, the United Democratic Party, the Social Democratic Assembly, the Party of People's Accord, the National Democratic Party, the Movement for Democratic Reforms in Belarus, the Writers' Union, and some other organizations approve this idea. The basic principles of this association have been formulated. They include the priority of human rights, the transition from a command to a social market economy, the sovereignty of Belarus, the non-entrance into military blocs.

E.M. Lugin, chairman of the Belarusian Peasant Party, noted that the bloc of the united democratic forces will actually become a considerable political force in Belarus, along with the communists and the Popular Front. It is remarkable that the principles of the "Spring 94" association were approved by Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich.

Government Raises Military Officers' Salaries

PM3009110993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Sep 93 p 1

[Report by Valeriy Kovalev under the "From Our Newsdesk" rubric: " 'Stars' Increase Their Value in Belarus"]

[Text] The Belarusian Council of Ministers has adopted a decision on increasing salaries based on military ranks from 1 October this year.

They will now be fixed approximately in line with the rates in the uniform wage scale's first category of workers and employees in the republic national economy. Thanks to this salaries based on military ranks will increase by more than 500 percent. Specifically, a lieutenant will receive 13,200 rubles [R] and a major R4,850 for his "stars." Salaries will automatically increase when the rate increases. By the same decree the government increased the amount of monetary compensation to servicemen in lieu of the food ration. Henceforth it will be R5,500 as against the previous R960.

Moldova

President Snegur Justifies Signing of CIS Agreement

AU3009192693 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1800 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] This evening, Chisinau radio broadcast the statement made by President Mircea Snegur in response to attacks by various political circles in connection with the signing of the agreement on creating a CIS economic union.

The president of the republic explained this move through the disastrous economic situation of the country

and the significant share of CIS member countries in economic relations with the Republic of Moldova. He emphasized that the decision of signing this agreement was made following thorough studies and discussions, including with representatives of the IMF and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. He stressed that this agreement does not harm, by any means, the sovereignty and independence of the Republic of Moldova.

In conclusion, President Snegur emphasized that the implementation of the documents signed in Moscow, including the agreement on creating a CIS economic union, for the first time in the past two years offers a real chance for stabilizing the situation quickly and for coming out of the crisis, our correspondent in Chisinau informed us.

Officials View Degree of Union With Romania

AU3009212393 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1840 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 29/9/1993—During the talks between Marcel Dinu, ambassador, state secretary, minister for the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ion Botnaru, Romanian first deputy minister of foreign affairs, the Moldovan-Romanian Agreement on Cooperation was discussed. "At this level of discussions we tried to clarify the concept and general sense of the agreement. After this step, the text is going to be examined by experts," stated Marcel Dinu. Referring to the name of the agreement, the diplomat from Bucharest said that it can be called the Agreement of Political, Economic and Financial Union between Romania and the Republic of Moldova. This agreement will regulate the size of specific relations and will not mean unification. "This is the European solution we should strive for," stated Marcel Dinu. The quoted source alleged that the concepts which were tested in Western Europe should not worry anyone. He said that the idea to create a Romanian Economic Community deserves interest. "The economic integration between Romania and Moldova should not be viewed as opposing the economic Union of CIS states but as a supplementary issue of it," remarked Marcel Dinu.

Dniester Rejects Cancellation of Privatization Law

AU0110103693 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1840 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS 29/9/1993—Yesterday, the Supreme Soviet of the self-proclaimed Transdniester Republic rejected Professor Yakovlev's proposal to organize a plebiscite to cancel the law on privatization. Deputies will pronounce on this problem at an extraordinary session of parliament and at the congress of all deputies on 12 November, 1993. The Supreme Soviet approved a declaration according to which Ghimn Pologov cannot have mandates both in the Transdniester and Moldovan Parliaments.

Armenia

Nagorno-Karabakh Reports Relative Peace in Region

NC3009160393 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1430 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic defense headquarters has revealed that the situation in the confrontation areas is relatively peaceful. The sides are heeding the cease-fire agreement. No serious incident has occurred on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Karabakh Parliament Upcoming Discussions Viewed

NC3009161793 Yerevan SNARK in English 0819 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Stepanakert, September 29 (SNARK)—On September 30 the session of Karabakh Parliament will renew the his work [as received]. The deputies off parliament are going to consider the priority direction of external policy, to adopt the laws on the status of people's deputy and the order of his recall, to confirm the decrees of the presidium of Karabakh Supreme Soviet. Answering to the SNARK's reporter question, why the election of the chairman of Karabakh Parliament is postponed, Gegam Bagdasaryan, the press-secretary of Karabakh Parliament, said that now the positive progress is outlined in the conflict decision on the way of bilateral negotiations between Karabakh and Azerbaijan. [sentence as received] He mentioned that the election might cause the nervousness in the political life of Karabakh. Certainly Karabakh Parliament must have its chairman, and his election will be in the future Bagdasaryan said. It is known that Karen Baburyan is acting as chairman of Karabakh now.

Azerbaijan

Economic Results of Joining CIS Viewed

NC3009123293 Baku TURAN in English 1503 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] Baku, September 29 (TURAN)—In line with state statistics, economy of Azerbaijan is on the same and even exceeds the level of economy of the countries-members of the CIS. So, in the countries of the CIS volume of industrial production decreased by 15.8 [percent] in comparison with January-July 1992. The volume of food production has decreased too. The production of meat in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan decreased by 16-17 per cent, in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan by 60-64 per cent in comparison with January-July 1992. But in Azerbaijan production of meat decreased by 44.1 per cent within the same period, that is less than in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

The situation is critical in heavy industry too. Production of oil within the period of seven months in Russia decreased by 13 per cent, in Kazakhstan by 10 per cent, in Turkmenistan by 16 per cent, in Azerbaijan by 7.1 per cent. As the production of oil decreased so volume of oil refining and oil products has decreased too. Production of diesel fuel in Belarus decreased by 36 per cent, petrol by 37 per cent, black oil by 40 per cent, in Turkmenistan correspondingly by 34, 20 and 46 per cent. But in Azerbaijan volume of production of petrol decreased by 2.8 per cent, black oil and diesel fuel by 9.3 and 19.9 per cents that shows favourable position of Azeri economy in this field.

In January-July 1993 building of apartment houses in Kyrgyzstan decreased by 60 per cent, in Kazakhstan by 26 per cent, of kindergartens in Belarus by 53 per cent, in Kyrgyzstan by 68 per cent, of polyclinics in Kazakhstan by 60 per cent against last year. In Azerbaijan within the period of seven months, building of apartment houses increased against the same period of last year and amounted [to] 49 per cent more. Building of kindergartens increased by 19 per cent, schools by 49 per cent, polyclinics by 2.8 per cent.

The difference between expenses and incomes of the population is more in the countries of the CIS than in Azerbaijan. So, in Armenia it amounts 60 per cent, in Kazakhstan 49.3 per cent, in Russia 26 per cent, in Turkmenistan 63 per cent, Uzbekistan 34 per cent. In Azerbaijan 46.8 per cent. The reason of it is the growth of inflation and great difference between demand and supply.

In the Commonwealth prices in retail trade increased in average by 21.5 per cent against June. The prices in shops were higher than during the same period of 1992, in average within the seven months prices increased by 11.2 per cent, in July by 13.4 per cent. The prices at the markets in the countries of the CIS increased: In Kyrgyzstan by 6.1 times, in Tajikistan by 7.5 times, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Turkmenistan and Belarus by 9.9-10.6 times, in Russia by 11.6 times.

The experts of State Statistics Department think that Azerbaijan's entering into the CIS, formation of close integration between the countries of the CIS will help the economy. But it is not the main way out. First of all it will speed up the course of privatization and farmer's economy.

Official Denies Aliyev, Ciller Discuss Peacekeepers

NC3009195293 Baku AZERTAC in English 1614 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Baku, September 30 (AZERTAC)—The HURRIYET has hurried to inform its readers about deployment of international peace-keeping forces in the zone of hostilities between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Nakim Akhundov, chief of the parliaments Department of Foreign Affairs, in an interview given to the AZERTAC today, said the deployment of peace-keeping forces had not been a subject of a telephone conversation between

Speaker Geydar Aliyev and the Turkish Premier, Tansu Ciller. Mr. Akhundov declined to comment on the three day earlier conversation between two high officials and pointed out that the subject of the conversation had not concerned the deployment of peace-keeping forces.

Aliyev Meets British Ambassador Young

NC3009201693 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Geydar Aliyev, acting president and chairman of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet and National Assembly, received the new British Ambassador Thomas Young today. The ambassador thanked Aliyev for his warm welcome and stressed: Relations have existed between Britain and Azerbaijan, but they will be strengthened. I will try to improve the multisided bilateral relations.

Later, the ambassador said Britain knows of Azerbaijan's difficult problems. He asserted: Britain cannot remain indifferent to the occupation of Azerbaijan's territory. The British Government has contributed to adopting UN Security Council Resolution 853. I have met several refugees in Fizulinskiy Rayon and studied their pitiful situation. The British Government allocated humanitarian aid worth 1 million manats to Azerbaijan in 1993. Britain will step up its humanitarian aid. We are confident that the oil agreement between Britain and Azerbaijan will yield positive results. You already know of British Petroleum's vast experience in prospecting for oil. That company's work in Azerbaijan will yield positive results. The John Brown Company and GBC [expansion not given] have also established relations with your Republic. GBC will help Azerbaijan establish new telephone lines. The [name indistinct] Company is planning to help Azerbaijan sell its agricultural products in international markets.

Aliyev heard the British ambassador's views and then held talks with him on issues concerning the two countries.

Georgia

Shevardnadze on Foreign Support for Abkhaz Forces

LD0110113693 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Statement by head of state Eduard Shevardnadze; date not given—recorded; read by announcer]

[Excerpts] A 10-day storming of practically unguarded Sukhumi, the barbaric shooting and shelling of residential areas, and the extermination of civilians, ended with the capture of the deserted town.

Those Georgian civilians who escaped death in the slaughterhouse are sharing the fate of those who fell in street battles defending the town, they are being shot on the spot, which is a breach of internationally accepted moral standards. Prisoners and those who aspire for peace, and are doing their best to achieve it, are being exterminated under vague circumstances, as reported by the ringleaders of the killer gangs.

Having captured Sukhumi, the Russian, Abkhaz, and Chechen combatants destroyed Gulripshi Rayon and set fire to the town of Ochamchira. Now the largest Georgian rayon in Abkhazia, Gali, and its population of 10,000 are in jeopardy.

The ethnic cleansing, which was methodically started by the separatists from the Psou River territory, spread all through Abkhazia. The ethnic minority has established its strength by using mass terror and violence since the breakup of the Soviet Union.

The leaders of the ethnic minorities would not have achieved it without outside help. Abkhazia's separatism has been molded by imperial, nationalistic, communist, and revanchist Russia and fed, supported, and borne by it.

The Russian side undertook the role of cadet, guarantor, and pioneer of the 27 July 1993 cease-fire agreement and its implementation, but failed to notice the active preparations aimed at wrecking the agreement. The Russians hid, or maybe left, whole sub-units and tons of combat equipment at positions so that they could attack Sukhumi and the populated areas of Ochamchira Rayon at an agreed time. Preparations for this attack were carried out overtly. The Georgian population was also openly threatened. The Abkhaz separatists drove the Georgians from territories controlled by the Abkhazians.

Despite the statement that strict control had been established on the border at Psou River, vehicles carrying armed mercenaries and equipment crossed without any hindrance from Russia to Gudauta. Loaded planes landed at Bombora Airport. [passage omitted]

Now 120,000 refugees who escaped death on the land of their ancestors are heading to western Georgia on the roads and footpaths of Svaneti. Among them there are 58,000 children, 45,000 women, the rest are elderly, invalids, and the wounded. [passage omitted: the refugees driven by force are weak and ill; the nation has been betrayed]

In the immediate future, the Gudauta defenders' double standards, which have emerged on Soviet land, will cover the rest of the world. We are giving a warning. Georgia is just a test area, used by the programmed machine for totalitarian and imperial revenge.

After the fall of Sukhumi, they have intentionally turned a blind eye, have not given the real causes of the tragedy, or the names of the criminals, and world public attention has been diverted to the humanitarian aid for the population on the occupied territory, the scale of the evacuation of the civilians, and the ships that carry the refugees from the occupied territories. We are thankful for this help and ask them [the Russians] to widen its scale. [passage omitted]

I am forced to ask the UN Secretary General and UN institutions to save the thousands of my compatriots from hunger, illness, and destruction, the people who have become prey to outside forces, separatism, genocide, strategic interests, and criminal policy.

I am addressing the same request to the United States, Germany, Britain, Italy, Canada, Japan, and other countries of the West and the world. Georgia's calamity is so great that it needs an agreed, immediate, and international program.

Hoping that you will respond to this request, I thank you in advance for this help.

Shevardnadze Reportedly Leaving for Kutaisi

LD0110105693 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1020 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Tbilisi, 1 Oct—According to an Iberia correspondent, head of state Eduard Shevardnadze is leaving for Kutaisi today. [passage indistinct]

Roundup of Activities in Conflict Regions

Fighting Subsides; 2 Generals Held

LD3009202993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1744 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] There was no fighting between Georgian and Abkhazian troops on Thursday afternoon, the press center of the Georgian Defense Ministry told INTERFAX. Georgian forces led by ex-Defense Minister Tengiz Kitovani consolidated their positions by the village of Achigvara in Gali District.

A member of the Georgian parliament, Guram Mamulia, said on his return from Abkhazia that two Georgian police generals had been taken hostage in Gali District by followers of ex-President Zviad Gamsakhurdia. They were Georgi Gulua, transport police chief, and Givi Kvantaliani, former police school principal and ex-deputy interior minister.

The Interior Ministry press center neither confirmed nor denied Mamulia's assertion.

Mamulia also said individual clashes were occurring between retreating Georgian troops and Gamsakhurdia's rebels.

Abkhazians Claim 'Full Control'

LD3009222393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2003 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Abkhazia's troops and legitimate authorities have taken full control of the republic's entire territory, said Abkhazian Defense Minister Sultan Sosnaliyev.

He told INTERFAX Abkhazian troops had reached the Georgian border by Thursday evening and put up the Abkhazian national flag on the Ingur River, along which the border runs.

He reaffirmed that Abkhazian troops had not been given orders to cross the border into Georgia.

Calm in Chokhatauri Rayon

LD0110000093 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1000 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Chokhatauri, 30 Sep—The head of the Chokhatauri administration told an IBERIA correspondent in conversation that there was a seeming calm in the rayon.

Kobalia's armed formations reappeared in Japana. They are moving between Chokhatauri and Ozurgeti. Practically, they have not left the territory of the Chokhatauri rayon.

No serious complications have been reported.

Abkhazians Approach Inguri River

LD0110095793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0730 GMT 1 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shcheglova]

[Text] Sochi, 1 Oct—After taking over the cities of Ochamchira and Gali, Abkhazian military formations have approached the Abkhazian border along the Inguri River, an ITAR-TASS correspondent was told at the operational headquarters of the Russian State Committee for Extraordinary Situations. According to this source, the situation in the republic remains complicated. Separate armed groups of Georgian troops continue actions in some areas of Sukhumi, Ochamchira, and Gali regions. As the headquarters' personnel believe, sections of Georgian troops are hiding in the mountains.

Ardzinba: Refugees Can Return

LD0110114593 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1020 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Gudauta, 1 Oct—According to an Iberia correspondent, Ardzinba, the leader of the Gudauta group said that the civilian population that had recently left Abkhaz territory could return to their homes. "Their lives are not in danger, if, of course, they did not fight on the Georgian side," Ardzinba said.

Abkhaz Plants Working

LD0110125393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1006 GMT 1 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shchogoleva]

[Text] Sochi October 1 TASS—The Sukhumi bakery plant resumed its operation on Friday, Abkhazian Agriculture Minister Lev Shamba told staff members of the press service of the Abkhazian parliament.

According to the same source, the Sukhumi ship-repairing yard began to repair fishing boats. A tobacco factory is to begin functioning on Saturday. Work has been started to rehabilitate tea factories in Gulripsh and Dranda.

The personnel of law enforcement agencies and the security service are taking measures to neutralise groups of Georgian troops that are in hiding in the forests and mountains of Abkhazia, an Abkhazian Defence Ministry report said.

Tbilisi Blames Gamsakhurdia for Fall of Ochamchira

LD3009193493 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1449 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] We continue to follow the latest events in Abkhazia where, as is known, Georgian Government forces left the city of Ochamchira. IPRINDA correspondent Zurab Dvali reports:

[Dvali] The Georgian Defense Ministry's press center reports that this turn of events in Ochamchira rayon, where up to today the advantage was clearly on the Georgian side, was made possible by yet another betrayal by units of the former president.

It appears that yesterday evening Loti Kobalia's units, on their own decision, abandoned forward positions near Ochamchira and returned to Zugdidi. Moreover, Kobalia alleged that one of the government units holding back the onslaught of the Abkhaz separatists had disarmed him. All of this could not fail to cause panic among some of the personnel of Georgian units stationed around Ochamchira.

In general, military sources note that a fateful role in this development of events was played by the betrayal by Gamsakhurdia's supporters on the one hand and by the absence of a single command of the Ochamchira grouping, on the other.

Yesterday evening Georgian television played a recording of an intercepted conversation between Gamsakhurdia and one of his entourage. The former president categorically demanded that an order be passed to Loti Kobalia, who headed the armed formations in Mingrelia, that the latter should not even think about going to Abkhazia to help the government forces; and this was done later. In order to satisfy the political ambitions of the former president, whom they worship, those units which seemed to be going to protect their fellow-countrymen left them to be torn to pieces by the enemy.

It is interesting that in the intercepted messages which the republic's special services have obtained, Zviad Gamsakhurdia said several times in a conversation with his entourage that he was awaiting a telephone call from Moscow. Unfortunately, it is not yet known with whom in the Russian capital the former president of Georgia is keeping in contact. But one must suppose that he regards these contacts as very important.

The whole tragicomedy of the situation is that literally two days ago Gasakhurdia, arrayed in military uniform, held a large rally in Gali where he addressed his joy-crazed supporters. He said: I shall return to Sukhumi at any moment. But literally according to information at 1600, battles are being waged on the outskirts of Gali. But the inhabitants of this city who have not seen the return of their president are hastily leaving it.

Gamsakhurdia Declares 'Total Mobilization'

LD3009205893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 Sep 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Abkhaz Armed Forces this morning occupied Ochamchira and then entered the town of Gali, the last of the major towns in Abkhazia which was previously controlled by Georgia. This was reported by AFP.

There are now about 18,000 refugees from Abkhazia in the Georgian port of Poti, according to Roman Nelia, the town's mayor.

Zviad Gamsakhurdia has declared total mobilization throughout the republic, primarily of military specialists and persons who have performed military service.

Shevardnadze Aide Advocates Guerrilla Warfare

LD3010235993 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Interview with Jaba Ioseliani, member of parliament and leader of the paramilitary militia Mkhedrioni, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Some of the Georgians forced to move from Abkhazia, who could not manage to reach safe places by sea or by air, seek freedom through ravines and gorges. Starvation, tiredness, and a deep spiritual injury accompanies the elderly, women, children, and wounded soldiers exiled by the barbarians. I am looking at them, and a medieval picture reveals itself. However, this is Georgia, deserted by fate so far.

[Correspondent] Batono [Georgian address of respect] Jaba, how would you assess today's situation?

[Ioseliani] The situation is catastrophic. Russia's putridity, their unreliability, appeared to have no end and no limits. So far they have been playing cat and mouse with us. And now, finally, they have choked us. You know, once a cat is tired of playing it smothers the mouse.

[Correspondent] Are there many refugees, Batono Jaba?

[Ioseliani] Too many.

[Correspondent] Mainly women and children, I think.

[Ioseliani] Women, children, and men, too. There are some soldiers who fled shamefully. You cannot blame them. They cannot confront Russian technology.

[Correspondent] Estimating roughly, how many refugees can there be?

[Ioseliani] Refugees? I am not sure. I think about 100,000. Starting from here, from Chuberi to Merkheuli the road is packed with people. The entire Sukhumi, Gulripshi Rayons have become deserted. This is what genocide is, real genocide. And we still speak to them. Let us declare that Russia is our ruin and let them kill us in front of the whole world. Let us start war against Russia and no word about the Abkhazians. The Abkhazians do not deserve mercy either for the inhumane actions they did. I would call the Abkhazians Samoyedi [Russian for those who eat themselves]. They eat themselves up. In about five years there will be none of them here. Chechens and Russians will eat them. That is when they will realize everything but it will be too late.

[Correspondent] Can the war be considered lost or is there some hope?

[Ioseliani] I think we have to start a new war, a guerrilla war, as I have said before. They always did shameful things to us but now they have done the most shameful thing. They swore friendship and brotherhood but then stabbed us in back using not a knife but some tools for torture. That is why we have to sever everything with them. We have to turn to Europe. Europe cannot help us now. They are still afraid but we have to turn to Europe, anyway. It is impossible to survive Russia's forces of darkness, which have no limits.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

Sirishvili Describes Plight of Sukhumi Refugees

LD0110054693 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0535 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Report by Iprinda correspondent Zurab Dvali]

[Text] Irina Sirishvili, deputy prime minister of the republic, held a news conference late last night. She read out an appeal issued by the Georgian Government to foreign countries. It says that after the capture of Sukhumi by the Abkhazian separatists and their mercenaries mass elimination of the Georgian population has ensued. Those who managed to escape from this nightmare—and there are several thousand of them—are making their way to safe places and suffer terrible hardships and deprivations connected with this. A figure of 120,000 people was mentioned. Unfortunately, the deputy prime minister noted, Russia, which came forward as a guarantor of peace in this region, has failed to notice the equipment and weapons hidden away by the Abkhazian separatists, thus, giving the opportunity for the Gudauta group to get well prepared for the assault on Sukhumi.

In spite of assurances of firm control, military equipment, ammunition, and mercenaries continue to arrive on the territory controlled by Gudauta along the Psou river. According to the latest intelligence service reports, 15 Ikarus buses with mercenaries have crossed the Russian-Georgian border on the Psou river last night. It seems, the Party of War, about which Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev was talking all along, is still active and still continues the elimination of peaceful civilians, continuing this war, this nightmare on the territory of Abkhazia.

It was also pointed out at the news conference that the invaders are armed with the sort of weapons that even the Russian units that were deployed on the Georgian territory did not have. Other facts pointing to the active participation of the third force in this conflict were also mentioned. At the same time, Sirishvili stated that the turn of events in which Georgia was practically left alone to fight this dangerous enemy, which has it own strategic interests in Abkhazia, has forced its government to appeal to the West with just one request: to help, at least, to evacuate the remaining thousands of refugees stranded in the zone of conflict who face inevitable death. I hope, continued the deputy prime minister, that the international organizations will not need to take such a long time to issue special resolutions on this issue to help us and, what is most important, to help us in time.

Tripartite Meeting in Geneva Postponed

LD3009182893 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1615 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] A working meeting of Georgian, Abkhazian, and Russian representatives scheduled by the UN secretary-general's special envoy, Eduard Brunner, to be held in Geneva at the end of September, has been postponed. The parties were expected to present their positions and discuss ways of achieving a ceasefire. This was reported by Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Pastukhov. According to him, Brunner expressed his regret at the current development of the situation in Abkhazia.

Tbilisi To Increase Measures To Combat Terrorism

LD0110121893 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] On 30 September, the issues on the implementation of the emergency rules in Tbilisi were discussed at the session of the city headquarters chaired by Kote Gabashvili, the mayor of the city.

It was noted at the session that there was a real possibility of terrorist groups entering the city. Their aim is to destabilize the situation in Tbilisi and create tension.

Attacks by the former president's supporters on strategically important installations are to be expected. In order to evade all this, stepping up control and coordination is necessary.

The session was summed up by head of state Eduard Shevardnadze, who noted that the crisis in the country was getting deeper, which was facilitated by the presence of the former president in Samegrelo which, for its part, played the most negative role in the fall of Sukhumi. In Shevardnadze's opinion, the Georgian people and the population of Tbilisi who realize the danger of the civil war, will not allow the exacerbation of the confrontation and will do everything to save Georgia.

Justice Ministry Suspends Pro-Gamsakhurdia Newspaper

LD3009214893 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] On the basis of a letter of September from the Procurator's Office of the Republic of Georgia, the collegium of the Ministry of Justice has made a decision, in accordance with clause 12 of the law on the press and other sources of mass media of the Republic of Georgia, to suspend the activity of the [pro-Gamsakhurdia] IBERIA SPEKTRI paper for one year.

Estonia

Popular Front Movement To Formally Dissolve

WS3009151393 Tallinn BNS in English 1411 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] TALLINN, Sept 30, BNS—The Estonian Popular Front, a movement established in the high time of Gorbachev's perestroika five years ago, is going to end its activity.

A statement issued by the Popular Front Council says the movement is calling its final, or fifth congress, to take place in November. The congress is to look back on the way gone through over the past years and will also take a look ahead, activists say in the statement.

The council calls on delegates who have taken part in at least three of the movement's past congresses, as well as politicians who started in the Popular Front in 1988, to register.

The first congress of the Estonian Popular Front was held on Oct. 2, 1988. The movement then combined many who now count among the country's leading politicians. It was also the basis for some of the centrist and left-of-center political parties set up later. Several organizations, led by the Centrist Party of once leader of the Popular Front and former Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar, united their forces before last Fall's general elections in a coalition under the name "Popular Front".

Already the Popular Front Statutes from 1988 mention that the popular movement, based of civic initiative, will lose its role with further development of the society. Estonia by now has achieved almost all of the goals set in the Popular Front's original program, the activists added.

Latvia

President Ulmanis Addresses UN General Assembly

LD3009185093 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Speech by President Guntis Ulmanis to the UN General Assembly session in New York on 29 September—live or recorded]

[Text] Mr. President, Mr Secretary General, your excellencies esteemed delegates: Mr. President, first of all, allow me to congratulate you in connection with your election to the post of president of the 48th session of the General Assembly and to wish you the greatest success in conducting this noble organization of peoples' unity.

Latvia expresses its respect for the states which have recently been admitted to the United Nations Organization and sincerely wishes to cooperate with them. This year was rich in events for Latvia. On 18 November, we will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the proclamation of independence. The elections to the Saeima and its convocation marked the 75th anniversary of the existence of our state. This event was particularly important, because parliamentary democracy and the constitution of 1922 were fully restored. In addition, the convocation of the Saeima ended the three-year-long period of restoration of Latvia's statehood, which included the restoration of our independence de facto in August 1991 and Latvia's admission to the United Nations.

The restoration of Latvian independence and constitution after a 50-year break is evidence of the strength of the people's will, of democracy, and of international law.

In order to understand what is going on in Latvia and in our region at the moment it is necessary to look at several facts of modern history. In accordance with the secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact which was signed by Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union in 1939, Latvia was included in the sphere of influence of the USSR and this opened the way for the illegal occupation of Latvia in 1940. According to international law, the Molotov- Ribbentrop Pact and its secret protocols are considered null and void since the moment of their signing. Although Latvia lost its sovereignty and independence de facto, its de jure status did not change. Many states continued to recognize the de jure status of Latvia and continued to declare it during the 50 years of Latvia's occupation. The status of the State of Latvia has been preserved on the basis of the principle that an illegal action cannot legally change a legal status. Therefore, immediately after the restoration of independence Latvia was able to restore diplomatic relations so quickly with all the states, with which it maintained them before World War II. Many bilateral and multilateral agreements, which had been concluded between 1918 and 1940, also immediately came into force.

It is important to understand that Latvia is not a newly created independent state, but it existed all these 75 years. This fact is significant also because Latvia's de jure status which has been preserved has juridical, political, and economic consequences. It particularly concerns relations between Latvia and the Russian Federation. The recognition of the occupation of Latvia by the former Soviet Union as an illegal act would become a stable basis for good-neighborly relations, namely normal political contact and economic cooperation.

I would like to express Latvia's full support for the attempts by the UN secretary general and UN member states to maintain peace and international security, especially for those aims which are included in the secretary generals' Plan for Peace report. Welcoming the businesslike and far-sighted proposals of this report, especially in the sphere of preventive diplomacy, we also consider our proposals for other spheres of activity of the United Nations, including defending human rights and the sphere of social development. Latvia's experience in how to use preventive diplomacy might be useful on this path. It should be stressed that Latvia has tried to put to

use preventive diplomacy as much as possible. We have suggesting to and inviting representatives of the United Nations and regional international organizations to visit Latvia to create an atmosphere of understanding and trust around problems which trouble our region. Latvia has recently agreed with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to set up a representation of this organization in Riga. These efforts have helped promote more information about the situation in Latvia and improved the UN member states' understanding and ability to respond adequately to our problems.

The UN secretary general, UN member states, and regional organizations, in cooperation with Latvia, have joined together to tackle the issue most important and urgent for us—the withdrawal of the troops of the former Soviet Union from Latvian territory. For more than two years now Latvia has tried to conclude an agreement with Russia on the troop withdrawal, as well as asked international organizations for support on this issue. However, the troops of the big neighboring state are still present on the territory of sovereign Latvia.

Last year, the UN General Assembly session considered the issue of the complete withdrawal of foreign troops from the territory of the Baltic states. In Resolution 4721, unanimously adopted at the session, it called on the Baltic states and the Russian Federation, I quote: to conclude without delay corresponding agreements together with the timetable which will envisage speedy, well organized, and complete withdrawal of foreign troops from Estonian and Latvian territory, end quote. The Russian Federation supported this resolution. Russia also stated that it is dutybound to withdraw its troops from the Baltic states in accordance with the CSCE summit conference in Helsinki in July 1992.

A fact-finding mission headed by the special envoy, (Tommy Koch), has recently returned from Latvia and other Baltic states to report to the UN secretary general how the resolution of the General Assembly is being implemented. We are grateful to the secretary general for his attempts to secure fulfillment of this resolution. We are also grateful to Mr. Stoyan Ganev, president of the 47th session of the General Assembly, for accepting our invitation to visit Latvia in July 1993. He himself found out about the progress of the withdrawal of foreign troops and gained an insight into the progress of the restoration of our state.

Before we analyze the situation which has now evolved in connection with the presence of foreign troops on Latvian territory, I would like to express support for democratic processes in Russia, in the lead of which is the legally elected president, Boris Yeltsin. I hope that the process of political and economic reforms will continue in Russia and that the political forces of that country will tackle their problems in a peaceful and democratic way. Until now, in critical times, the democratic forces of Russia have shown their ability to act decisively and resolutely. I am convinced that the same will also happen now at this so difficult and complex time for Russia.

Mr. President, since February 1992 state delegations of Latvia and the Russian Federation have already met eight times for talks about troop withdrawal. A partial agreement was reached only on technical details, but nothing has been achieved on the basic question and the deadline for the withdrawal. The Latvian side categorically demands that the troops be withdrawn by the end of this year, namely two and a half years after the restoration of the independence of our state.

The Russian Federation, on the contrary, is not even giving a timescale for withdrawing its troops; various deadlines are mentioned from 1994 to even 1999. Russia's request to keep three military bases on Latvian territory, the radar station at Skrunda, the space reconnaissance center in Ventspils and the naval base in Liepaja, makes this problem even more complicated. We have repeatedly stated that Latvia will not allow any foreign military facilities to be maintained on its territory. The international community, including the Russian Federation, has agreed that the troop withdrawal should be speedy and complete. In addition, we cannot allow our land to be used for any purposes which might be directed against other states.

In our opinion, Russia's demands for special social benefits for retired officers of the army of the former USSR and the Russian Federation who have remained to live in Latvia, are not founded. Officers of the occupation army have been enjoying special privileges in Latvia for years. Apartments, medical care, and public services were easily accessible to+ them. The demand to maintain the privileges for officers of the foreign army are unjust and unacceptable for Latvian people. They should not become an issue delaying the withdrawal of the troops.

When the talks between the two states began in February 1992, an agreement was reached on certain guidelines. The two sides agreed that in the course of the army withdrawal they would abstain from uncoordinated unilateral actions. Unfortunately, since that time, the Russian Federation has repeatedly moved its army units, without permission and coordination, on the roads of the Latvian land; it has moved ships in Latvian ports and carried out unpermitted and uncoordinated flights within Latvian airspace. Disregarding bilateral agreements, new conscripts were secretly brought into Latvia to replace soldiers who were going away.

Because of the presence of the Russian troops in our small country, it is difficult to arouse interest in and to attract foreign investors whose investment is very much needed in Latvia at the moment. The fact that the Russian Army has dangerously polluted Latvia's environment also causes particular agitation in society.

Mr. President, Latvia wishes to obtain an assurance that the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity

of our state are respected and that its territory will not be used to threaten international peace and security. I hope that the talks between Latvia and Russia, which will resume on 28 September, are businesslike and that an agreement will be concluded shortly on the complete withdrawal of foreign troops from Latvian territory. That will be the start of completely new relations between our states—relations without suspicion and enmity. Then a time will come when our society and our children are free from the prejudices of the past. Therefore, Latvia welcomes the complete withdrawal of Russian troops from Lithuania. That is a step forward in strengthening security in the Baltic region.

As I mentioned, it is important to recognize that Latvia's occupation and annexation, which considerably influenced the demographic situation in Latvia, were illegal. This circumstance should definitely be taken into account to understand what kind of Latvia we have at the moment. If in 1940, 75 percent of Latvian residents were Latvians, then at the moment their proportion amounts to only 52 percent. Hundreds of thousands of people were deported to Siberia, thousands were imprisoned and killed. During World War II, tens of thousands of people died, were sent for forced labor to Nazi Germany, as well as were forced to flee to the West escaping the red terror. Over that time, the number of residents of Latvia has decreased on the whole by one third. That can also be said of Livonians—Latvia's indigenous population—who now number only several dozen. Over the postwar years, a huge influx of people from the Soviet Union followed this mass deportation of Latvians and their forced emigration. In 1945, the officers of the Soviet Army, who had just arrived, occupied approximately 25 percent of all the apartments in the Latvian capital. A large proportion of them belonged to families of indigenous population who were deported to Siberia or were forced to leave for the West.

The Soviet regime flooded into Latvia not only soldiers on active service and retired soldiers, but also civil labor and executive personnel, granting them various privileges. The pace of migration sharply increased after 1959 when the Soviet Government began to implement in Latvia the colonization policy, unfoundedly extending the network of heavy industry enterprises in Latvia. In the next 30 years the population of Latvia increased by 27 percent. Over that period, the indigenous population increased by only 7.6 percent; the number of migrants, however, by 58.5 percent. The mechanical increase of the population exceeded natural population growth by eight times. In this connection, I will allow myself to stress that no other state in the world has lost so much of the indigenous population as a result of occupation and colonial policy, in no other state of the world in our times has the indigenous nation become a minority in its own country, as is now the case in Latvia.

We believe that the restoration of our independence will give us the opportunity to improve the demographic situation in Latvia. If our people are sure about their future and survival, then they will also be able to devote more efforts to international problems. The changes in the demographic situation cannot, however, be expressed in figures alone. Latvians were subjected to discrimination in their native country, especially in the spheres of the use of the Latvian language and employment possibilities. During the years of the Soviet occupation, competence in the Russian language became necessary both in the education system and in many work places. The Latvian language, on the contrary, was often eradicated. In addition, the Soviet power apparatus introduced a ban on professions in many branches of strategic and state importance.

Thinking of the future of the Latvian people, we should determine a citizenship law which will ensure the survival of the indigenous nation. At the same time, Latvia observes the international norms of human rights. Creating a register of residents, we have, to a certain extent, determined the circle of our citizens. Regaining its sovereignty and independence in 1991, Latvia restored citizenship to persons who had it in 1940 and to their descendants regardless of their nationality, religion, and ethnic origin.

In accordance with the constitution, these citizens already took part in the parliamentary elections in June 1993. Approximately 400,000 non-Latvian citizens [of Latvia] had the right to vote, which is one fourth of all the citizens of Latvia. This figure corresponds to the ethnic proportion in Latvia in 1940 before the Soviet occupation.

The democratically elected Latvian Saeima will pass a law on citizenship in the near future. In accordance with international law, this law will lay down requirements which residents of Latvia who arrived after 1940 will have to meet to obtain the citizenship. Residents who were moved into Latvia during the Soviet occupation are fully protected by the norms of international human rights.

According to an assessment by the experts of the Council of Europe, Latvian legislation meets the standards which are applied in many member states of the Council of Europe and which are guaranteed in the convention on human rights.

Schools have again been opened in Latvia for traditional minorities—Russians, Belarusians, Poles, Jews and others; national cultural societies are working actively, which helps each minority to preserve its national identity.

Mr. President, a peaceful, legal, and efficient process of the restoration of the state has begun in Latvia. Several international organizations have confirmed that it is really peaceful and proceeding within the boundaries of commonly acceptable law. Latvia has no reason to conceal anything. It has sympathetically received missions which have inspected observance of human rights.

On behalf of Latvia, I am expressing gratitude to (Mr. Ibrahim Fowles), envoy of the UN secretary general, who headed the factfinding mission which visited Latvia in

October 1992. The report of that mission says, I quote: After the restoration of independence, Latvia is now going through a transitional period. The Latvian Government is trying to rectify the historical injustice which was done during the time of Soviet power from 1940 until 1991, end quote.

This caused anxiety among non-Latvians about their future status and role in this country. It is this feeling of insecurity, but not any gross violations of human rights, that characterizes the present situation in Latvia. Having analyzed the information obtained, the mission did not find any gross and systematic violations of human rights in Latvia. Facts, about which the United Nations has received letters, are extraordinary and they cannot be related to discrimination policy as such. The mission believes that it is possible and necessary to eliminate them at a proper level. The fact that instances of violence, mass dismissal from work, expulsion from educational institutions, turning out of apartments, nor expulsion from the country have not been registered was valued positively, end quote [as heard].

The report of the UN fact-finding mission is consistent with the conclusions of the Council of Europe, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the European Court of Human Rights. In spite of this evidence, Latvia has become an object of political attacks. The Russian Federation continuously accuses Latvia of violations of human rights. Disproving these unfounded statements requires much effort and funds from both Latvia and many international institutions, including the United Nations Organization.

I will also allow myself to focus on the serious financial crisis which affected the United Nations and forced the secretary general to take radical steps toward reducing the budget. Latvia believes that it is necessary to look for solutions in this direction, which will be acceptable to all member states and which will be based on the principles of the UN statutes. In this connection, Latvia would wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to the ad hoc resolution which was passed for the sake of short-term political and financial profit, but which in practice will deepen the financial crisis. I mean the resolution passed by the General Assembly in December 1992.

According to it, payments are determined for 15 states which are situated on the territory of the former Soviet Union according to an ad hoc principle, but not according to the accepted procedure of determination of the ability to pay. This resolution does not correspond with the principles of sovereign equal rights and the actual ability to pay. Membership payments which are many times higher than they should be in reality are fixed for the 15 states. In addition, Latvia and other two Baltic states which were not successors of the Soviet Union were forced to undertake the obligations of the Soviet Union and a part of its payment into the fund of working capital.

Mr. President, Latvia is beginning its third year in the United Nations Organization. In the future, our state will become more and more widely involved in activities of the United Nations and of other international organizations, participating in tackling problems which are important for the whole of mankind. At the international conference on human rights in Vienna, we already paid attention to two issues, in the tackling of which Latvia could make a large contribution; they are rights of minorities and foreigners.

Latvia still abides by its proposal, made last year at the international conference on the environment in Rio de Janeiro, to hold a high-level conference at our resort town of Jurmala, which could decide to use the funds obtained from disarmament on improving the environment.

Latvia supports the creation of the post of a UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; we also recommend increasing the regular budget of the Human Rights Center in Geneva. Latvia believes that nongovernmental organizations are very significant in securing international human rights and that they should be more involved in the work of the United Nations.

In the debates on the change of the composition of the Security Council, Latvia supports the idea that the number of states represented in it should be increased. Such a reform would ensure equal opportunities for big and small states when deciding on issues which are important for the whole mankind. Latvia supports further efforts aimed at improving the structure and working practices of the General Assembly.

We welcome the positive processes in the Middle East, in the Republic of South Africa, in Cambodia, and in Haiti. We hope that with the efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations peace will also set in on the long-suffering territory of the former Yugoslavia, in Georgia, Somalia, and elsewhere where blood is still shed today.

Mr. President, Latvia has a rich history of international affairs, in its time it also presided over the Council of the League of Nations. To mark our contribution to international relations and the 75th anniversary of the proclamation of state independence, Latvia has undertaken to renovate a conference hall at the UN premises in Geneva. The conference hall which is situated in the Palace of Nations and which is adorned with amber from the shores of the Baltic Sea, was presented to the League of Nations by the Latvian Government and people in 1938. Let this room in the Palace of Nations, regaining its historical splendor, be a symbol of the victory of justice, when Latvia joins once again the international community as a full member.

I believe that now, when independence is restored in my country, our small state will be able to do much more to ensure peace and democracy in the world. I believe that all together we will be able to pass on to our children a much better world, a world which will have more security, faith, and freedom.

Thank you, Mr. President.

President Ulmanis Ready To Visit Russia

LD0110050293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1342 GMT 30 Sep 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga, September 30 (TASS)—President Guntis Ulmanis of Latvia is ready to visit Russia if an opportunity presents itself, Ulmanis told reporters in the Riga airport after returning from New York where he addressed the U.N. General Assembly on Wednesday dwelling upon the problem of Russian troops withdrawal.

Ulmanis believes that further progress in bilateral relations between Russia and Latvia may be achieved only at the negotiating table, but it is not always possible to find a common language. The president cited his conversation with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev in New York as a good example of successful dialogue.

Another round of Russian-Latvian talks ended in the Baltic-sea resort of Yurmala yesterday. Sergey Zotov, head of the Russian negotiating team, stressed that Russia "is doing its utmost to pull out troops within the shortest but realistic time and in a civilized manner". However, he warned that any delays in signing the basic agreement may prevent the Russian troops from leaving the Baltic republic in 1994 and made public certain figures to prove this. Thus, Russia expected to have withdrawn 128 military units this year, but 64 out of them were not pulled out because the negotiations were suspended. These troops are now to be added to the 163 units to be redeployed next year, when the withdrawal was scheduled to be completed. "Thus, the number of units to be pulled out is increasing, while the signing of the treaty is continually delayed", the delegation head noted.

"If the Latvian leadership understands clearly that Russia does not intend to yield to any pressure, we will be able to conduct more constructive talks and to sign in the near future agreements which would make it possible to complete troop withdrawal next year", Zotov noted.

Birkavs Discusses Armaments With Estonia's Velliste

WS3009144293 Riga LETA in English 1240 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Riga, September 30 (LETA)—The Baltic states need to work out the single standard of the armament and technical equipment for National Defence Forces, Foreign Minister of Estonia Trivimi Velliste said Thursday [30 September] at the news conference held on the close of his meeting with Latvian Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs. Mr. Velliste being in his first official visit to Latvia had already talks with Defence Minister of Latvia Valdis Pavlovskis and visited one of the units of the Latvia's Defence Forces in the Riga outskirts. He made a point that more emphasis should be placed on the establishing of the National Defence Forces taking into consideration unstable situation in Russia.

During the meeting of the Estonian minister with Valdis Birkavs the wide range of economic problems has been discussed which included those connected with the construction of the international highway "Via Baltica". We have an objective to unite the three Baltic countries and set up single custom-zone, Mr. Velliste said to journalists. He noted that the main obstacle was different frontier regime, but he believes that Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia will reach a common agreement.

Lithuania

Report on President Brazauskas' Talks in U.S.

LD3009220693 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0800 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Excerpt] Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas continues his visit in the United States. Linas Rimkus reports from New York:

[Rimkus] Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas has confirmed that during their meeting with President Clinton the presidents of the Baltic states raised the issue of the withdrawal of the Russian army. He himself suggested the demilitarization of Kaliningrad oblast. President Brazauskas expressed his satisfaction that President Clinton favorably received the proposals of the Baltic leaders.

[Begin Brazauskas recording] I saw that he understands our problems, that he is aware of the difficulties encountered by us. One of them, I raised it, apart from what you have already mentioned, was the danger of economic dependence on other states, economic dependence of small states which have become free, and I mean, above all, the Baltic states. This economic dependence can always develop into some compulsory deals. [end recording]

But President Brazauskas felt the absence of enthusiasm among the representatives of other states about Lithuania's demand that Russia should pay compensation for damages inflicted during the years of occupation. He noted that this issue is complicated by the fact that in this case the moral aspect is tangled up with purely financial matters.

After a meeting with press representatives of the Lithuanian emigres, President Brazauskas met with Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski. Polish representatives asked for this meeting on Monday. So far there is no information about the content of this meeting. Before the meeting President Brazauskas did not comment in detail on this event, but said that there are many problems to be solved with Poland.

[Begin Brazauskas recording] It is very important to have a treaty with Poland. Other states neighboring Poland have peace and cooperation political treaties. We do not have such treaty, and you know the reasons why. This is the period of 1920-39 and its assessment. Intensive negotiations have been taking place lately. [end recording]

President Brazauskas added that surely there will be no negotiations with Poland in the nearest future because of political changes which have taken place there.

Before leaving New York President Brazauskas met with Croatian President Franjo Tudjman. The meeting took place at the latter's request. There is no information about the content of this meeting.

A luncheon and a meeting with the financiers was organized this morning for President Brazauskas by a private Baltic fund which intends to amass an investment capital in the sum of $30-60 million for the Baltic enterprises. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Reportedly Resigns Over Desertions

LD3009210293 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2000 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] The Lithuanian Minister of National Defense, Audrius Butkevicius, has declared that he feels guilty for the recent developments in the system of the voluntary defense service. Speaking in parliament on Thursday, the minister admitted that he had failed to establish control in the system and that was the reason why he had resigned.

In mid-September at least a few dozen armed servicemen of the voluntary national defense from the Kaunas branch withdrew to the forests as a sign of protest against the poor social guarantees and against the top commanders of the national defense system.

In his turn, Minister Audrius Butkevicius defined the incident as a provocation rather than a conflict adding that so far there is no legal thinking, only party interests in Lithuania.

President Nominates Armed Forces Commander

WS3009134793 Tallinn BNS in English 1857 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] VILNIUS, Sept 29, BNS—The National Security Committee of the Lithuanian parliament recommended Colonel Jonas Andriuskevicius as commander of Lithuanian Armed Forces.

According to the Lithuanian Constitution, the armed forces commander is nominated and appointed by the president on approval by the parliament.

The president nominated 49-year-old Andriuskevicius, head of the State Defense Military School in Vilnius.

Andriuskevicius is a graduate of the Leningrad Military College and the Frunze Military Academy. He has served as commander of a Soviet Army squad in East Germany, head of a Soviet regiment headquarters in Siberia and assistant head of the Soviet army headquarters in Ethiopia. During 1984-91 he was head of the Military Department at Vilnius University.

In 1992 Andriuskevicius was given the rank of Lithuanian army colonel and was appointed as head of the Voluntary State Defense Service's training center. He has served as head of the military school in Vilnius since August 1992.

Andriuskevicius joined the Soviet Communist Party in 1966 and left it in 1990.

The colonel said the situation in the system of defense can be described as "hardly satisfactory." He says uneven distribution of state funds to different army structures creates friction between them. He added that disorder became even a greater problem without an armed forces commander.

Andriuskevicius says the Lithuanian Army should be small, mobile and well armed. The country's armed forces should consist of the army, the air force and the coast guard.

The colonel also stressed the need to create the joint chiefs of staff because the current headquarters in the Ministry of Defense is capable only of bureaucratic work. He also pointed out the problem of Lithuanian weapon calibres and standards.

Andriuskevicius says politicians should not interfere in army affairs, but should only determine the size of the Armed Forces, find money for military needs and decide whether Lithuania should join any military unions or not.

"Discipline is necessary in the army," he said about a recent incident in the Voluntary State Defense Service.

Members of the parliament's National Security Committee heard the candidate Wednesday [29 September], but will announce their decision later.

According to some sources, not all committee members are willing to vote for Andriuskevicius. Some lawmakers have doubts about his service in East Germany and Ethiopia. His service in the latter country and communist partisanship were not mentioned in a brief curriculum vitae handed out to committee members. Andriuskevicius assured the Lithuanian lawmakers that he did not conceal any facts of his biography when joining Lithuania's Armed Forces and said he never saw the CV [curriculum vitae] given out.

Russia Continues To Withdraw Remaining Army Troops

WS3009134893 Tallinn BNS in English 1644 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] VILNIUS, Sept 29, BNS—Russia continues to pull out the remainder of its troops from Lithuania, one month after the official completion of the Russian Army withdrawal from the country.

The Russian military may still be present on Lithuania's soil until the New Year.

Lithuanian officials gave permission for a 40-men operation group to remain in the seaport of Klaipeda.

The group will stay until Oct. 15 to complete all legal formalities with Lithuanian authorities.

Around 130 Russian soldiers are emptying ammunition depots in the Radviliskis region. Lithuanian and Russian ministers agreed that the work would be completed by the New Year. The depots are now guarded by Lithuanian soldiers.

Other remaining bits of the Russian army are withdrawing little by little, as well. Colonel-Lieutenant Juozas Slavinskas, head of the still functioning Russian troop withdrawal coordination department, said a group of Lithuanian energy experts started work Wednesday [29 September] at the former Russian rocket fuel base in Pagegiai and should sign a transference act with the Russian side soon. Five Russian soldiers worked at the base until now. They were taking out nitric acid which the Russians suggested leaving in Lithuania, however nobody wanted it.

A military hospital in Vilnius should be finally handed over to Lithuanian authorities Oct. 1. The hospital with its 40 patients, mainly retired Russian officers, will be handed over to the Ministry of Health Care.

It is still unclear whether Lithuania will take over a helicopter repair factory in Kaunas. Eight Russian military officials remain in the factory and await orders from the leadership.

An aircraft repair factory in Panevezys has not been handed over to Lithuania either. Although all legal documents are ready, the factory's former head does not get an order to sign them.

Around 400 Russian officer families are also waiting for a possibility to move out from Lithuania.

Text of Resolution Announcing Defense Service Draft

WS0110084993 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 22 Sep 93 No. 184 p 7

[Government Resolution No. 704 issued in Vilnius on 15 September: "On the Draft to the Active National Defense Service and the Transfer to the Reserve"]

[Text] Implementing the provisional law of the Republic of Lithuania on national defense service, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania decrees:

1. To announce in October and November of 1993 the draft to the active national defense service of recruits born in 1974 who will become 19 years of age during the work of conscription commissions, and also of other senior citizens of the Republic of Lithuania who must perform their active national defense service.

2. To transfer to the reserve in October and November of 1993 servicemen who have served their full term in the active national defense service.

3. To authorize the Volunteer National Defense Service at the Defense Ministry to conduct the draft.

4. To establish that:

4.1. The draft shall be conducted in line with the provisional law on the national defense service of the Republic of Lithuania, and 4,500 recruits shall be conscripted to the active national defense service.

4.2. Recruits shall be trained and armed according to the National Defense Ministry and the Interior Ministry regulations, and perform their duty in the Interior Ministry service units or other places designated by the National Defense Ministry.

4.3. Conscription commissions of city (region) self-governments shall begin their work at the time appointed by the National Defense Ministry.

5. Observing the statute of medical examination of the national defense service of the Republic of Lithuania approved on 19 March 1993, the Health Ministry together with the National Defense Ministry shall guarantee that medical consultative commissions at city (region) out-patient clinics will assure a thorough performance of medical examinations.

6. The Interior Ministry shall assist the district and region territorial defense headquarters of the Volunteer National Defense Service at the National Defense Ministry in conducting the draft to the active national defense service.

7. Meeting the request by the National Defense Ministry, the Industry and Trade Ministry shall provide the necessary amount of fabric for servicemen's uniforms.

[Signed] Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius, National Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius

[Dated] 15 September 1993, Vilnius